

S 1993 Montana state-
796.5 wide comprehensive
F2M outdoor recreation plan
1993 a draft for public
DRAFT review and comment

**1993
MONTANA STATEWIDE
COMPREHENSIVE OUTDOOR
RECREATION PLAN**

A DRAFT FOR PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENT

SEPTEMBER 10, 1992

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**Montana Department
of
Fish, Wildlife & Parks**



Helena, MT 59620
October 14, 1992

Dear Recreation Enthusiast:

Enclosed for your review and comment is a draft copy of the 1993 Montana Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP). This plan maintains the state's eligibility to receive funding from the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund Grants Program. For over 25 years the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks has administered Montana's share of this 50/50 match program, financing more than 750 projects statewide representing a \$60 million investment of federal, state and local dollars.

The 1993 SCORP differs from past SCORPs in that the 93 plan uses information gathered from previous SCORP studies, as well as from recent research to identify the main focus areas presented in Section III.

I suggest reviewing Section III carefully, since this outlines the areas that SCORP will focus on for the next five years. Section III also contains a revised Land and Water Conservation Fund Open Project Selection Process (OPSP) on pages 14-23. The OPSP is the means by which project proposals submitted by local government agencies are evaluated and ranked for matching grant revenue.

Comments on any aspect of the SCORP are encouraged and should be submitted in writing to:

SCORP Public Comment
State Parks Division
Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks
1420 East Sixth Avenue
Helena, Montana 59620

A synopsis of public comments will be reported in Section V of the final report. All of the appendices listed have not been included in this package due to excessive size. Requests for copies of the complete appendix can be made to the Parks Division in Helena at (406) 444-3750. The official public comment period runs from October 15 to December 15, 1992. The final document will be published in January of 1993.

I hope you will find the plan both useful and informative. Please contact me at (406) 444-3818 if you have any questions about the 1993 SCORP, or if you would like additional information about the Land and Water Conservation Fund Program.

Sincerely,

James P. Domino
Outdoor Recreation Planner
Parks Division

enclosure

ate Due:

23 23 1994

21 1995

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- I. AN ANALYSIS OF TRENDS IN RECREATION
PARTICIPATION AND SCORP POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS**
- II. IMPLEMENTATION PLAN**
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INTRODUCTION

INTRODUCTION

Montana is endowed with an abundance of outstanding natural, cultural, historic and recreational resources. Its citizens have a outdoor legacy linked inseparably to the land. Montana is derived from the Spanish word for mountain, with the western third of the State dominated by the northern ranges of the Rocky Mountains. The central and eastern portions of the state are a composite of high plains, rolling hills and isolated prairie mountains. It is within this diverse and vast landscape that Montanans develop and endow their rich outdoor recreation heritage. Montanans place tremendous importance on ensuring that their outdoor recreational needs are met, and that the State's rustic attributes are properly managed and conserved for present and future generations.

The Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP), through the Parks Division, has prepared the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) as a means to identify the outdoor recreational needs and desires of Montanans, and as a way of identifying programs and actions to fulfill those needs in a way that will benefit all Montanans. The legal authority for outdoor recreation planning in Montana is derived from Section 23-2-101, Montana Code Annotated (MCA). Section 23-2-102 MCA authorizes Montana's participation in the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Act of 1965 (Public Law 88-578).

The Parks Division of FWP administers the LWCF program, which provides matching grants to state and local governments for acquisition, development and improvement of outdoor recreation resources or facilities. The National Park Service is responsible for administering the LWCF program for the federal government. A SCORP is required from each state at least every five years in order to remain eligible for LWCF revenues. In the 27 years since the act passed, Montana has received approximately \$60 million to fund more than 750 projects, ranging from half-acre city parks, to 55,000 acre Wildlife Management Areas.

The 1993 Montana Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) has been developed to provide guidance and cohesiveness to the management of outdoor recreation resources in Montana, and to facilitate services provided to users by federal, state and local governments, as well as private providers. It differs from previous SCORP documents in that a contemporary assessment of needs, issues, participation in outdoor recreation activities, and policies to address problem areas has been achieved by looking at SCORP planning efforts over the past 27 years since the first Montana SCORP was published in September of 1965, as well as recently conducted public assessments and inventories.

The 1993 SCORP initiates what is hoped to be an on-going process of self evaluation, assessment, and action to address a more

narrowly focused range of concerns. This will include planning frameworks, needed research, and actual measurable outcomes, as opposed to previous SCORPs which attempted to cover a broad spectrum of outdoor recreation issues, and identified actions with little or no evaluative substance. This is not a venture to de-emphasize the many significant problems and challenges facing natural resource conservation and outdoor recreation management efforts in Montana, but simply an effort to transform SCORP to a more workable and useable planning tool. Past SCORPs mainly served as a comprehensive information source for a specific point in time, requiring updating every five years. They generally lacked clearly defined goals, measurable objectives, and did not maintain social science methodological standards from one SCORP to the next.

The Analysis of Trends section utilizes information from research conducted outside, as well as within the seven previous Montana SCORP processes to identify patterns in recreation participation, issues, actions and policies, and recreation needs. Also provided are recommendations for standardizing data collection and survey techniques, and suggested guidelines for the development of standard definitions for various recreational activities. This information, and the data collected from other studies referenced in the report serve as the basis for the three focus areas addressed by the 1993 SCORP.

PUBLIC COMMENT AND PARTICIPATION

The 1993 SCORP utilized information and public comment and input from past SCORPs in the development of the draft report, as outlined in the trend analysis. The draft report will be circulated for public review and comment a period of 60 days, with comments received incorporated into the final report. The 1993 SCORP will be the most widely circulated of any previous SCORP, with a copy of the draft document mailed directly to each town, city, county, and Indian Nation government in Montana. Included in this mailing will be other state government agencies and selected federal agencies and special interest/non-profit organizations. The SCORP will serve the purpose of providing a means to address three important outdoor recreation issues, and providing a source of information about the various programs proposed or on-going that will assist in the provision of outdoor recreation related goods, services and opportunities, such as the revised Land and Water Conservation Fund Open Project Selection process. A statewide news release will be published in each of the major newspapers in Montana announcing the availability of the draft SCORP for public review.

Additional public involvement was generated through various surveys and inventories. The State Park Futures Committee Report (appendix D) is based on series of 15 public meetings attended by

over 500 people in 15 communities across the state, and a statewide newspaper survey. The public meetings and survey assessed Montanan's feelings and attitudes about the current and future condition of the state park system. The Tourism and Marketing Enhancement Plan (appendix H) included a series of public focus group sessions in three different regions of the state. The focus group sessions allowed people to express their views on the development and enhancement of three state parks in their respective regions as destination tourist attractions. The 1992 State Parks Visitor Survey evaluated current and proposed state park funding and management options using a combination of on-site and mail out questionnaires, and a statewide telephone survey. Nearly 1000 Montanans participated in this study. The 1992 Local Government Recreation Facility and Needs Inventory (appendix J) updated information on the numbers and types of various recreational facilities owned by city, town, county and Indian Nation governments, including school districts. Also requested as part of the inventory was an estimation of the number of additional facilities needed to meet demand in five years, and an estimated cost of providing those facilities. Over 200 communities and school districts statewide were included in the inventory and needs assessment.

OUTLINE OF THE PLAN

The 1993 Montana SCORP is organized into five sections. The first section contains the Analysis of Trends report. The Trend Analysis reviewed the findings and information contained from each of the seven previous Montana SCORPs. This was accomplished in order to identify patterns that may exist in participation for various activities, outdoor recreation and resource management issues, and patterns in actions identified to address them. Outdoor recreation facility and opportunity needs are also investigated. An assessment of the methods used to collect information for the SCORP process, and recommendations for improvement and standardization is also provided. The information on recreation participation and recreation needs was utilized to help identify the focus areas for the 1998 SCORP.

Section II, the Implementation Plan, outlines the focus areas that will be addressed during the next SCORP planning cycle. Also included is a new LWCF Open Project Selection Process (OPSP) for evaluation of project proposals requesting matching grant assistance. Based on the findings of the trend analysis and the local government facility and needs inventory, three new criteria have been added to the OPSP.

The third section consists of the Montana wetlands portion of the SCORP, as required by National Park Service SCORP guidelines.

Section IV contains a summary of public comment received during

the official public comment period, which runs from October 15 to December 15, 1992.

Section V (appendices) contains research, inventory, and project reports conducted as part of the SCORP process. Also provided is the new Montana Recreation Guide, which gives an overview of the State's natural and wild resources, and recreational opportunities.

LIST OF APPENDICES

Appendix A	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Regional Wetlands Concept Plan, July 1990 (available upon request; not included with this draft due to size of report)
Appendix B	Comparison of old and new Land and Water Conservation Fund Open Project Selection Process
Appendix C	Montana 1992 Recreation Guide
Appendix D	State Parks Futures Committee Report, Executive Summary (full report is available upon request from the Parks Division Office in Helena)
Appendix E	State Trails Advisory Committee Members
Appendix F	Land and Water Conservation Fund Brochure
Appendix G	State Parks Facility and Attribute Inventory (available upon request; not included with this draft)
Appendix H	* Tourism and Marketing Enhancement Plan
Appendix I	* 1992 State Park System Visitor Survey Report
Appendix J	Local Government Recreational Facility and Needs Analysis form (data from this inventory is on file in the Parks Division office in Helena and is available upon request)

- * These reports are not available for inclusion in this draft. They will be included in the final SCORP report, which will be published in January of 1993. Any other report not included with this draft can be obtained free of charge from the Parks Division office in Helena. Reports can be requested by writing to: Parks Division, SCORP report, 1420 E. 6th Ave. Helena, MT 59620, or by calling (406) 444-3750, Mon-Fri, 8:00am to 5:00pm.

I. AN ANALYSIS OF TRENDS IN RECREATION PARTICIPATION AND SCORP POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

**AN ANALYSIS OF TRENDS
IN RECREATION PARTICIPATION AND
SCORP POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS**

Prepared by

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Research Report 20

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February 1992

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report describes the results of analysis of the seven SCORPs prepared by the state of Montana. Three areas were specifically addressed: outdoor recreation participation, issues and actions, and outdoor recreation needs. In addition to examining these components, the report makes recommendations for future SCORPs.

Of the 41 recreation activities examined, day hiking was participated in most often. Walking, bicycling, picnicking, fishing, bird watching, and pleasure driving were among other very popular activities.

A comparison of nine activities was made across a decade. Five activities, fishing, horseback riding, picnicking, cross country skiing, and snowmobiling, remained quite stable across the ten-year period. Hunting and bicycling had modest increases, while participation in camping decreased slightly. Downhill skiing was the only activity where participation changed drastically, increasing over the ten-year period. Overall, picnicking was consistently the activity with the most participation.

The proportion of total participation attributed to residents and non-residents changed from 1969 to 1983. In 1969, more of the total participation was attributed to non-residents than residents. The reverse of this was true in 1983.

A total of 61 issues emerged or were identified in the seven SCORPs. The largest number of issues, seven, were related to roles in recreation or coordination among agencies. There was a large increase in the number of issues addressed from 1965 to 1988. The 1988 SCORP contained 23 issues, while the 1965 SCORP contained only five. Issues related to funding/financing, roles in recreation/coordination, the environment, and tourism consistently surfaced during each of the three decades.

More than three hundred actions were identified to address the issues. However, there was no apparent effort in the SCORP process to track actions from one SCORP to another to determine if the actions were carried out.

Nineteen facility needs and/or activities requiring facility improvements were identified in the SCORPs. Three areas, campground facilities, picnic facilities, and swimming facilities, emerged as needs in four or more of the five SCORPs examined.

Many of the barriers to participation identified by individuals were, for the most part, under the control of the individual. For example, the individual exerts substantial influence over barriers such as lack of time, lack of equipment, and lack of skill.

The report makes several recommendations for future SCORPs. These include the need to establish consistency in the SCORP process, determine what is to be accomplished through the SCORP process, develop a specific format for the SCORP document, include non-residents in the analysis, and include aids to the reader (table of contents, page numbers, etc.) in the SCORP document.

INTRODUCTION

For over 25 years the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks (DFWP) has administered the federally supported Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF). The LWCF was established to provide states and local communities with matching funds for planning, development and acquisition of lands for recreation and parks. States are eligible to receive LWCF monies only if they prepare a State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) approximately every five years. These plans, which are to prioritize recreation needs and indicate directions for the development of resources and programs, usually consist of four main components: the supply of recreation opportunities, the present and projected demand for recreation, the present and projected needs, and the recommended courses of action to correct any deficiencies. In essence, the supply of recreation facilities/opportunities and the demand for such facilities/opportunities are used to determine recreational need.

The Parks Division of the DFWP prepared seven SCORPs from 1965 to 1988. Vast differences exist among the SCORPs, in terms of content, thoroughness, and layout. Each was substantially independent of the previous one, and no systematic evaluation of participation trends, issues and recommended actions, or recreation needs over time has been conducted.

Since recreation participation rates have not been examined over time, trends are unknown. It is not clear, for example, whether the popularity of specific activities has increased, decreased, or remained constant over the past 25 years. Furthermore, examination of the accuracy of past participation projections may provide information that allows more

accurate and more confident participation projections.

Similarly, issues contained within the various SCORPs have not been examined over time to determine if trends exist. Issues contained within each SCORP may bear little resemblance to issues identified in the previous one. From one SCORP to another, issues may be inconsistent. In addition, the recommended actions that accompany a particular issue may remain unchanged across several SCORPs. Although an item or an area may remain an issue across several SCORPs, progress toward the resolution of the issue should be apparent. The recommended actions should reflect this progress. That is, although the issue may remain the same or similar, the recommended actions should change as progress is being made. If the recommended actions are carried out, the next SCORP should contain new recommended actions.

Lastly, since recreation needs have not been examined over time, it is not clear whether the needs identified in the early SCORPs were met or if they reoccurred as needs in the later SCORPs. Examining these needs will help determine if a certain type of needs (i.e. facilities in urban areas, winter activities, public access, etc.) was addressed or ignored over time.

An evaluation of participation trends, issues and recommended actions, and recreation needs over time will supply information to help administrators make decisions and prepare future SCORPs. This information, which provides an assessment of what occurred in the past, will suggest directions for the future. The suggestions could be used at two levels. First, the actual trend information will be useful. It can be used to identify where to concentrate time, money, and effort. For example, repeatedly identified needs can be given priority in the action phase. Trend information thus provides a rational for taking a particular course of action. Second, the methodology used to address

the areas of participation, issues, and needs may suggest ways to improve the assessments in the future. If methodological changes in the SCORP process or document are warranted, they can be identified and rationalized using past SCORPs.

OBJECTIVES

Examining past SCORPs will provide insights that may help future SCORP planners develop a document that has continuity and makes use of information contained in the past SCORPs. The overall purpose of this study was to examine trends in the seven SCORPs and make methodological recommendations regarding future SCORPs. The four main objectives of the study were to:

- 1) Analyze recreation participation patterns identified as part of the SCORP process as well as those identified in other documents;
- 2) Examine recommended policies from past SCORPs and related documents and determine if they have changed, stayed the same, or exhibited common patterns;
- 3) Examine recreation needs identified in SCORPs and other pertinent documents;
- 4) Provide review and recommendations regarding the SCORP process in order to facilitate the development of future documents.

METHODS

A content analysis of each SCORP and other pertinent documents was conducted. The seven SCORPs were from the following years: 1965, 1967, 1969, 1973, 1978, 1983, and 1988. Since the 1967 SCORP was a revised version of the 1965 SCORP, much of the information contained in the two was the same. The other documents included in

this study were: *Attitudes -- Outdoor Recreation in Montana*, The University of Montana's Bureau of Business and Economic Research, 1980; *The Montana Outdoor Recreation Needs Survey*, Frost and McCool, School of Forestry, The University of Montana, 1986; research in progress, The University of Montana, Institute of Tourism and Recreation Research, 1991.

SECTION ONE - RECREATION PARTICIPATION

Participation Measurement

How Resident Participation Was Measured

All seven SCORPs contain participation information. However, since the participation information in the 1967 SCORP was the same as the information in the 1965 SCORP, the 1967 SCORP was not included in this analysis. Of the remaining six SCORPs, four measured participation using similar methods, while two used dissimilar methods. The 1973 SCORP measured participation in occasions per weekend, the 1978 SCORP used the number of occasions during a particular month, and the remaining four SCORPs either used activity days or contained information from which activity days could be calculated.

Those SCORPs that used activity days as the measure determined the frequency of participation and then multiplied it by the population to determine participation estimates. The 1965 SCORP used the 1960 U.S. Bureau of Census Report to obtain a population estimate. The activity rate was determined by the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation. It is not known how the activity rate was determined. Similarly, the 1969 SCORP determined the population figure based upon the 1970 estimate presented in the previous SCORP. Frequency of participation for 1970 was determined via Montana Fish and Game surveys. These

mail surveys were conducted during each of the four seasons. Information on how the sample was drawn was not given.

The 1983 SCORP participation data came from a study entitled *Attitudes -- Outdoor Recreation in Montana*, conducted by The University of Montana's Bureau of Business and Economic Research in 1979. This study utilized a telephone survey involving randomly selected telephone numbers from Montana. The 1988 SCORP used Montana Department of Commerce 1987 population projections. Frequency of participation was estimated from the 1985 Recreation Needs Survey conducted by The University of Montana. This study contacted Montana residents via telephone. Although the 1983 and 1988 SCORPs did not use activity days to report participation, frequency of participation was reported, so activity days were calculated for the present study.

The 1973 and 1978 SCORPs did not use activity days to report recreation participation. The 1973 results were reported in occasions per weekend. No elaboration was given on what was meant by occasions per weekend. In 1978, participation was reported as frequency of participation (or number of occasions) in a particular month. The month of July was used for non-snow-oriented activities, while the month of February was used for snow-oriented activities. No attempt was made to use these figures to estimate participation during a 12-month period. Obviously, it is unrealistic to multiply the number of July occasions for bicycling, for example, by 12 to determine participation for the year. People do not necessarily bicycle with the same frequency throughout the year. To get a participation figure for the year, a determination would have to be made of how much people bicycled in each month as compared to July. This is problematic since it would involve making numerous assumptions that would differ for each of the activities.

How Non-Resident Participation Was Measured

Of the SCORPs reporting non-resident participation, two, the 1969 and the 1983, expressed participation in activity days. For the 1969 SCORP, the total number of visitors, as reported in the 1958 Montana Tourist Survey, was multiplied by the same activity rate (days per person) used for Montana residents. In the 1983 SCORP, the data were based on the 1980 Old West Region Non-Resident Travel and Recreation Survey. Participation was reported in activity days. The 1978 SCORP reported non-resident participation for only one activity, camping. The unit of measure was "occasions" or frequency of participation in a particular month.

Limitations

Before examining participation rates or projections, it is necessary to understand several limitations of the data. Two factors severely limit the ability to make comparisons across the six SCORPs. First, the manner in which the original participation data were gathered differed from SCORP to SCORP. So, although activity days were reported for two SCORPs and could be computed for two more, the methodological differences may affect the participation rates. Second, participation rates for a total of 48 activities were reported in the six SCORPs. However, the definition of the activities was sometimes unclear or had changed from one SCORP to the next. For example, the activity "boating" was not defined in either 1965 or 1969, and the definition changed significantly between 1973, 1978, and 1983. (Boating was not used in 1988.) It included only motor boating in 1973. In 1978, it included river floating, sailing, motor boating, and "other" boating. In 1983, it consisted of motor boating and water skiing. Appendix A contains the definitions used in the SCORPs for activities that may be unclear or ambiguous. Given these limitations,

participation comparisons among the SCORPs are somewhat tenuous.

Results

The results of the recreation participation patterns are presented in four sections. The first contains resident and non-resident participation rates, as well as a comparison between the two. In the second section, the most popular activities are examined by year. The third section examines participation projections. In the fourth and final section, comments are made regarding ways to improve future SCORPs.

Resident Participation

Table 1 shows the participation rates for 48 activities contained within the six SCORPs. To make this information more useful to managers, the activities were aggregated into nine categories. These categories are not definitive, nor are they meant to be mutually exclusive. Instead, they provide an useful way to group activities so that similar activities can easily be compared. The categories are: water-oriented activities, snow-oriented activities, trail activities, non-trail activities, camping/day use, hunting/fishing-related activities, appreciative/spectator activities, team/site-oriented sport activities, and miscellaneous activities.

Although the information in Table 1 cannot be used to determine trends in participation, it does highlight some important points. First, four different units of measurement were used to report participation rates. Second, there was no consistency in the activities reported. For example, ice skating was reported in 1969, 1978, and 1988 but not in 1965, 1973, and 1983. Interpretations must therefore be generalized and somewhat speculative.

While the information in Table 1 cannot be construed as precise participation rates, it does reflect the general magnitude of participation. Figures 1 through 9 graphically display

the participation rates by category of activity for the four SCORPs that contain activity days. Of the ten activities in the water-oriented category, swimming was the only activity with data for all four years. Participation in swimming remained relatively constant at approximately three million activity days across the four SCORPs (Figure 1). Similarly, sailing remained relatively constant at less than 100,000 activity days. The number of activity days for canoeing was similar in 1965, 1969 and 1988. Boating and water skiing exhibited similar patterns -- for both, the 1969 participation was higher than the previous and the later years. They did differ in magnitude, as would be expected: more people participated in boating than in water skiing. Swimming had the highest participation of all water-oriented activities.

The snow-oriented activity participation rates are graphed in Figure 2. Note that for the purpose of the graph, snow skiing and downhill skiing were combined. The SCORPs did not define snow skiing, but given the years in which snow skiing was reported, it is reasonable to assume that snow skiing consisted of mostly downhill skiing with little cross-country skiing. Participation in downhill skiing was minimal in 1965, reached its highest point in 1969, fell in 1983, and rose again in 1988. Cross-country skiing participation was reported in two SCORPs, 1983 and 1988. Fewer people cross-country skied in 1983 than in 1988. As shown in Figure 2, the number of people participating in downhill and cross-country skiing was similar. Participation in snowmobiling was relatively constant from 1983 to 1988, the two years in which it was reported. The number of activity days in 1988 for ice skating was considerably less than it was in 1969.

Of the seven trail activities, four have participation rates reported for more than one year. Horseback riding participation was relatively similar, at approximately .8

Table 1: Participation Rates for Residents¹

Activity SCORP 1965 (Activity Days) SCORP 1969 (Activity Days) SCORP 1973 (Opportunities/Weekend) SCORP 1978 (Occasions) SCORP 1983 (Activity Days) SCORP 1988 (Activity Days)

Water-Oriented Activities

Boating	728,748	2,828,200	83,200	842,639	1,065,000	--
Boating -- Power	--	--	--	--	--	980,000
Canoeing	47,234	50,120	--	--	--	264,800
Kayaking	--	--	--	--	--	26,400
Rafting	--	--	--	--	--	319,200
River Floating	--	--	--	201,066	546,000	--
Sailing	53,981	57,280	--	--	--	38,400
Swimming	3,616,751	3,336,560	107,300	516,302	3,565,000	3,099,100
Water Skiing	290,150	1,245,840	--	--	--	345,600
Windsurfing	--	--	--	--	--	14,000

Snow-Oriented Activities

Skiing -- Downhill	--	--	--	399,985	311,000	662,400
Skiing -- Cross-Country	--	--	--	227,789	478,200	754,600
Skiing -- Snow	20,243	880,680	50,000	--	--	--
Ice Skating	--	1,116,960	--	270,240	--	228,900
Snow Playing	--	1,195,720	--	263,357	--	--
Snowmobiling	--	--	92,800	409,247	404,000	474,000
Snowshoeing	--	--	--	83,897	--	--
Tobogganning	--	286,400	--	--	--	--

Table 1 (continued)

Activity	SCORP 1965 (Activity Days)	SCORP 1969 (Activity Days)	SCORP 1973 (Opportunities/ Weekend)	SCORP 1978 (Occasions)	SCORP 1983 (Activity Days)	SCORP 1988 (Activity Days)
Trail Activities						
Backpacking	--	--	--	272,457	--	504,600
Day Hiking	--	--	--	--	--	13,707,000
Hiking	330,636	451,080	109,100	--	1,258,200	--
Horseback Riding	593,795	1,646,800	47,100	253,657	1,026,000	793,800
Motorcycle Riding	--	--	--	--	1,436,400	--
Mountain Biking	--	--	--	--	--	78,500
Nature Walks	465,589	551,320	--	--	--	--
ORV	--	--	--	655,564	--	1,670,900
Non-trail Activities						
Bicycling	1,241,571	1,303,120	58,500	168,334	3,582,000	4,582,000
Jogging	--	--	--	--	--	3,510,000
Walking	2,618,096	3,071,640	105,100	556,251	7,852,000	--
Camping/Day Use Activities						
Camping	708,505	3,150,400	139,900	1,344,641	3,145,000	2,462,400
Picnicking	1,410,263	4,553,760	155,500	632,415	2,539,200	2,672,400
Hunting/Fishing Related Activities						
Fishing	1,268,562	6,014,400	111,700	--	4,494,000	4,027,200
Hunting	--	1,346,080	150,700	--	1,922,000	2,228,000
Target Shooting	--	--	--	--	--	838,000

Table 1 (continued)

Activity

SCORP 1965 (Activity Days)

SCORP 1969 (Activity Days)

SCORP 1973 (Opportunities/Weekend)

SCORP 1978 (Occasions)

SCORP 1983 (Activity Days)

SCORP 1988 (Activity Days)

Appreciative/Spectator Activities

Bird Watching	--	--	--	--	4,012,500	3,950,100
Outdoor Concerts	148,449	186,160	--	--	--	--
Pleasure Driving	3,515,536	4,131,320	196,900	--	4,677,600	--
Sightseeing	1,848,862	2,255,400	119,500	--	--	--
Sports Events	695,010	787,600	--	--	--	--

Team/Site Oriented Sport Activities

Baseball/Softball	--	--	--	--	--	1,010,100
Basketball	--	--	--	--	--	908,000
Golfing	--	522,680	46,100	--	--	1,190,000
Playing Games	2,273,965	2,584,760	--	--	4,791,000	--
Soccer	--	--	--	--	--	94,000
Tennis	--	--	--	--	--	601,200

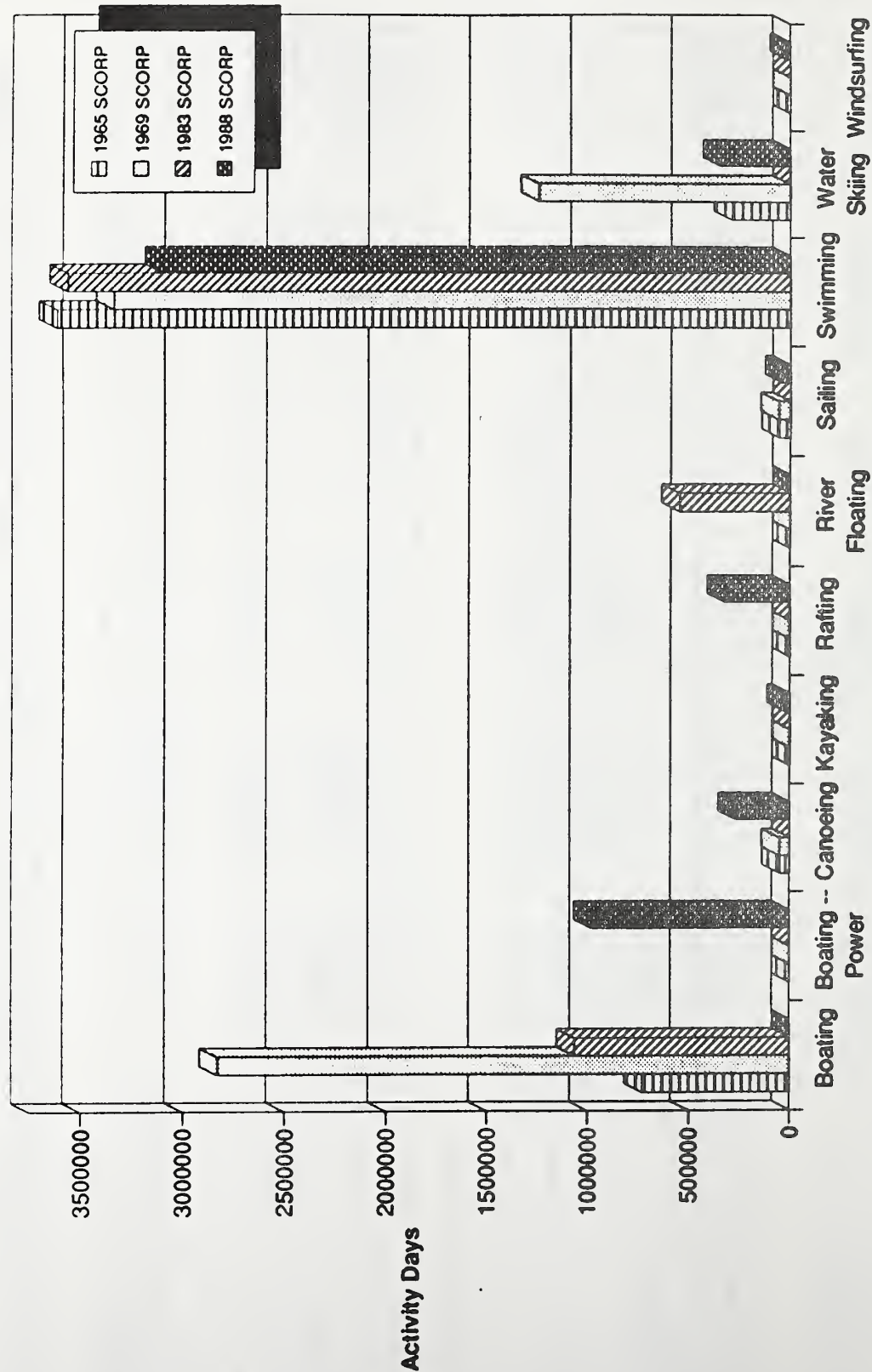
Miscellaneous Activities

Mountain Climbing	33,738	50,120	--	--	--	--
Rock Hounding	--	--	--	--	82,000	--

¹Participation data for the SCORPs was determined in the following ways:

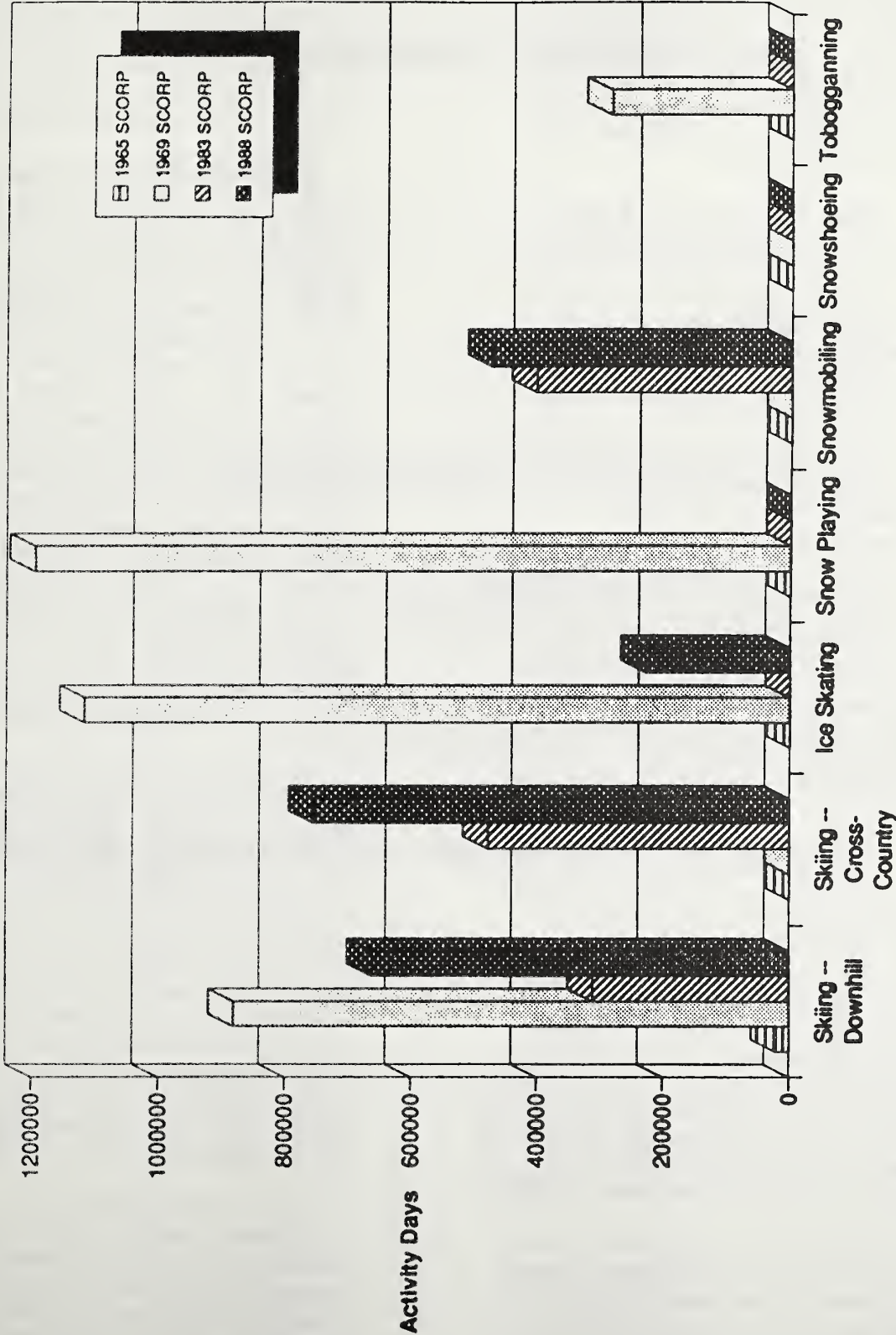
- the 1965 SCORP used 1960 U.S. Bureau of Census population data and Bureau of Outdoor Recreation activity rates
- the 1969 SCORP used 1970 population estimated made in the 1967 SCORP and frequency of participation from 1966 and 1967 Montana Fish and Game surveys
- the 1973 SCORP used 1971 Montana Resident Survey data
- the 1978 SCORP used 1976 and 1977 survey data for participation and population data from the Research and Information Systems Division of the Montana Department of Community Affairs
- the 1983 SCORP used participation data from a 1979 survey of residents
- the 1988 SCORP used participation data from a 1987 survey of residents

Figure 1: Resident Participation in Water-Oriented Activities



Activities showing zero participation represent activities that were not examined by the SCORP.

Figure 2: Resident Participation in Snow-Oriented Activities



Activities showing zero participation represent activities that were not examined by the SCORP.

million activity days in all but the 1969 SCORP, where it increased dramatically (Figure 3). Participation in hiking was of the same magnitude in the 1965 and 1969 SCORPs, but increased substantially in 1983. Taking nature walks was reported in the earliest two SCORPs and had similar participation.

Figure 4 displays the non-trail activities, walking, bicycling and jogging. (Note: it was decided to put walking in the non-trail category for the purpose of the graphs since, for the years it was reported, hiking was included as a trail activity. This is a subjective assignment given the limited definitions for these activities.) Jogging was only reported in one year, whereas walking was reported in three SCORPs, and bicycling was reported in all four SCORPs. Participation in walking increased slightly between 1965 and 1969. However, the participation more than doubled in 1983. Bicycling participation was similar in the first two SCORPs, with approximately one million activity days. Participation increased by over two million between 1969 and 1983. Bicycling also increased substantially in 1988. Participation in jogging was not as high as participation in bicycling.

The participation rates for camping and picnicking are displayed in Figure 5. Participation in camping increased between 1965 and 1969. The participation remained relatively similar between 1969 and 1983 and then decreased a little in 1988. Picnicking increased substantially from 1965 to 1969. However, it was virtually the same in 1983 and 1988. The number of activity days that people camped and picnicked was very similar, approximately 2.5 million, in the two most recent SCORPs.

Of the three hunting/fishing related activities, two had participation reported for more than one year (Figure 6). The number of activity days for fishing increased by approximately five million between 1965 and 1969. It then

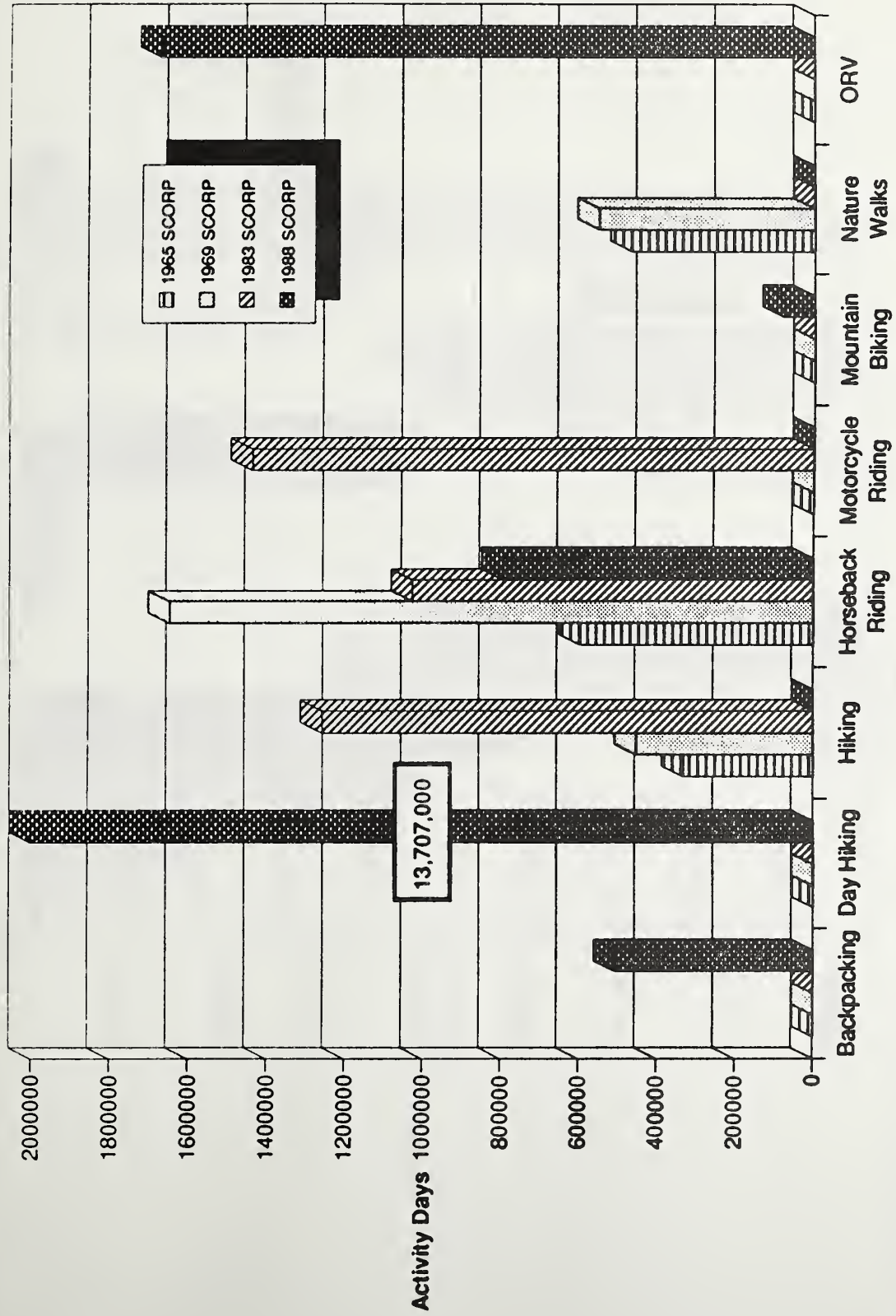
decreased by nearly two million in 1983 and remained relatively the same in 1988. The number of activity days of hunting was substantially less than that of fishing. Hunting increased slightly between 1969 and 1983, from approximately 1.5 million to 2 million activity days. It remained relatively constant between 1983 and 1988.

Within the appreciative/spectator activity category, pleasure driving, bird watching and attending outdoor concerts had similar participation rates at approximately 4 million activity days each (Figure 7). Attending outdoor concerts had a low participation rate in 1965 and 1969, but participation increased substantially, by about 4 million, in 1988. Pleasure driving, which has always had a high participation rate, had moderate increases in participation between 1965, 1969, and 1983. Participation was not reported for 1988. Participation for attending sports events was reported only in the first two SCORPs. Participation was essentially the same, at about .75 million activity days, for each of the years. Sightseeing was also only reported in the earliest two SCORPs, with participation increasing only slightly between the two.

Participation rates for the activities in the team/site-oriented sport category were reported only in the 1988 SCORP. Golf was the exception, being reported in both 1969 and 1988. Prior to 1988, participation in these activities was reported as an aggregated total under the activity heading "playing games." Since there are more participation data for playing games, it is displayed in the graph rather than the individual sports (Figure 8). Participation in playing games was similar in 1965 and 1969, at about 2.5 million activity days, and then increased by approximately 2 million in 1983.

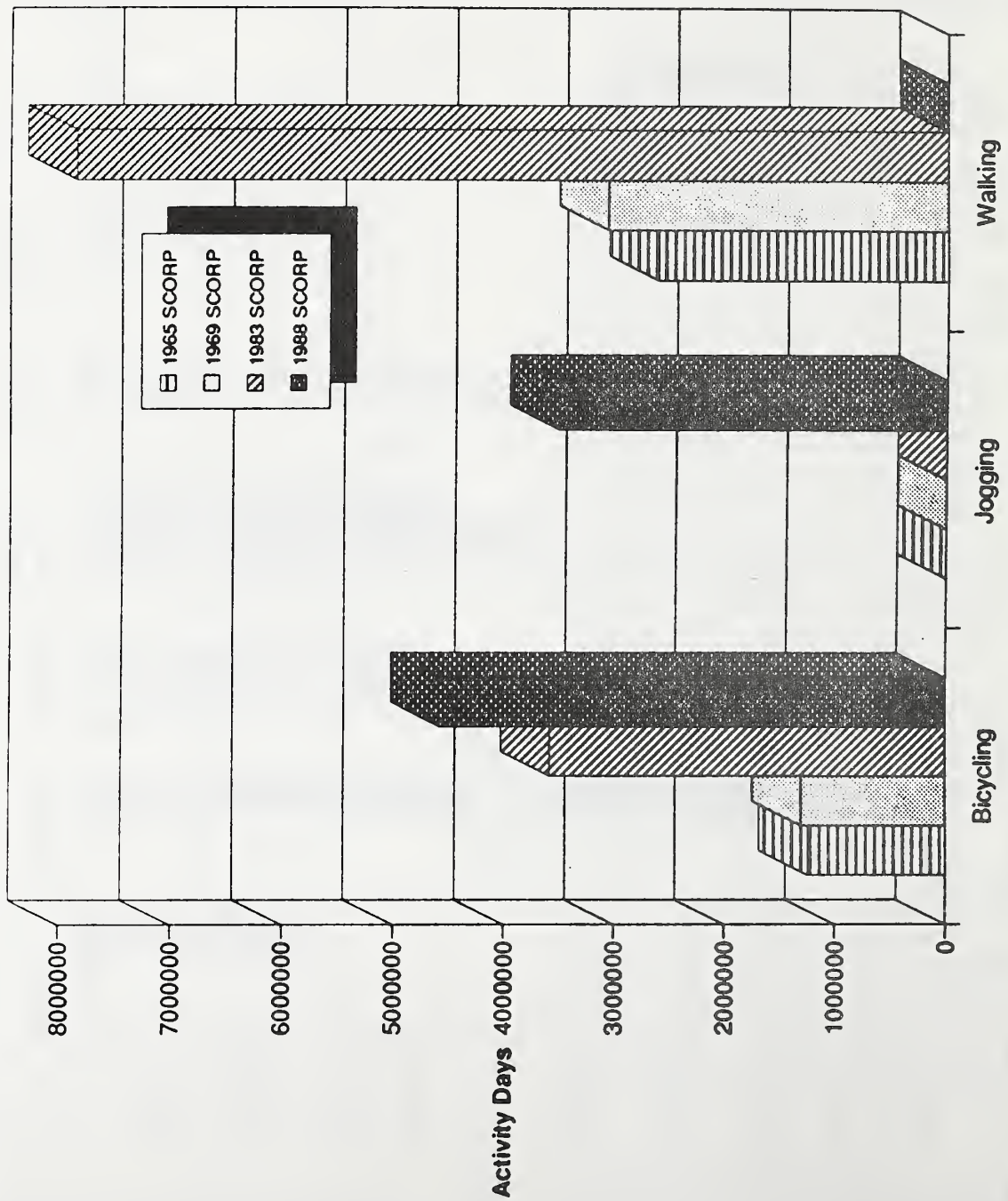
Of the two activities in the miscellaneous category, only mountain climbing had participation rates reported for more than a single year (Figure 9). The number of activity days increased slightly from 1965 to 1969, although only about 50,000 activity days occurred in 1969.

Figure 3: Resident Participation in Trail Activities



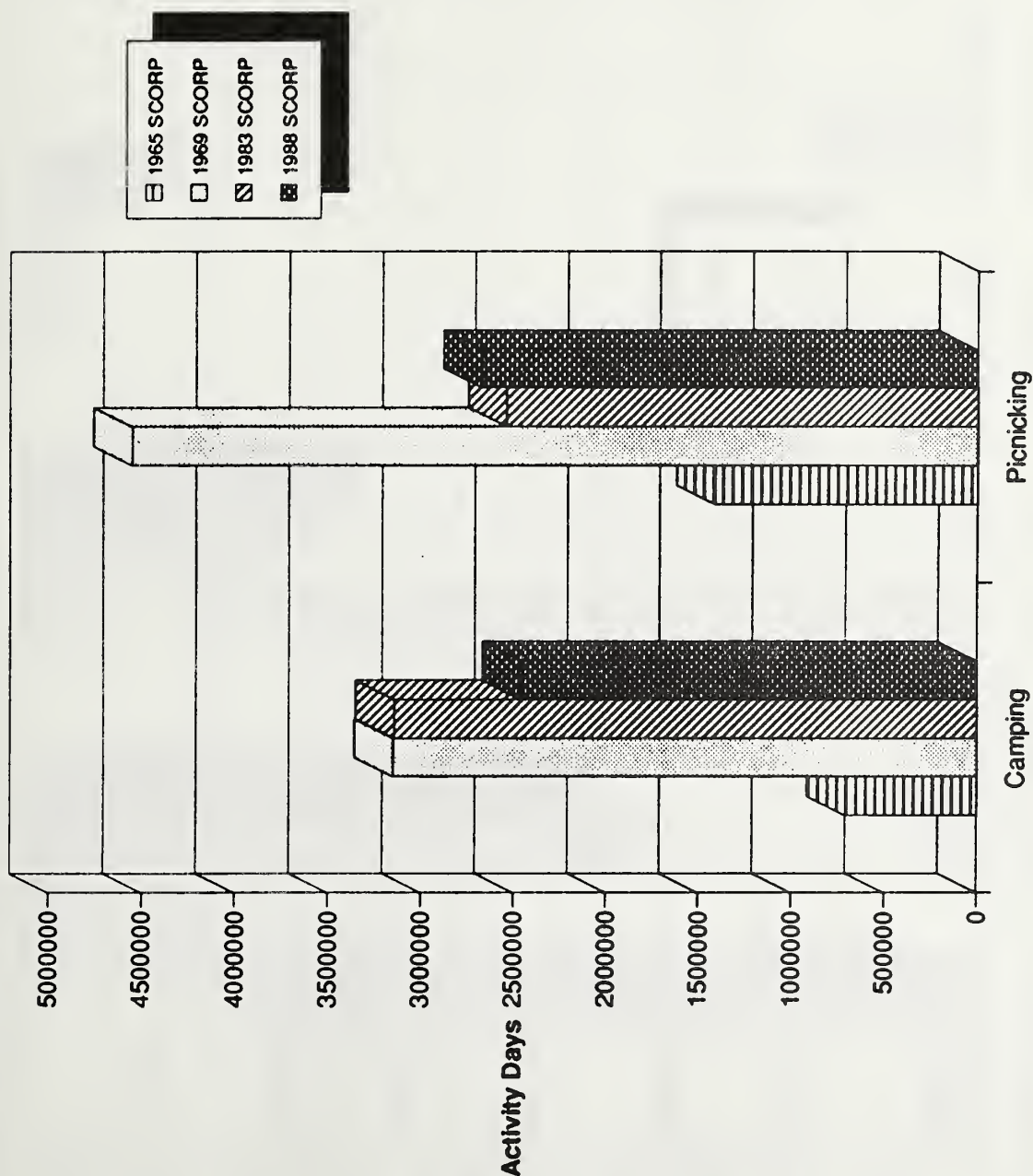
Activities showing zero participation represent activities that were not examined by the SCORP.

Figure 4: Resident Participation in Non-Trail Activities



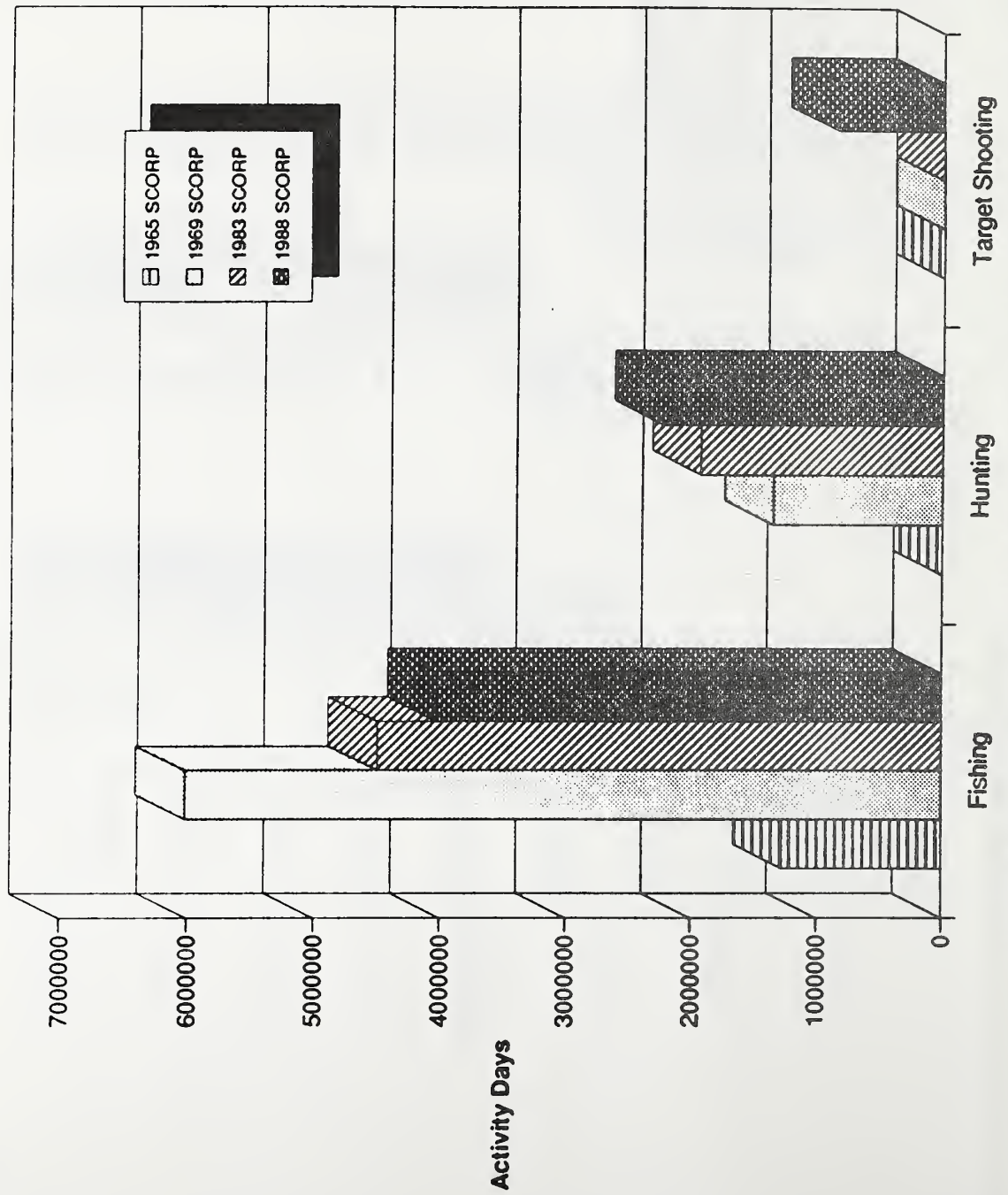
Activities showing zero participation represent activities that were not examined by the SCORP.

Figure 5: Resident Participation in Camping/Day Use Activities



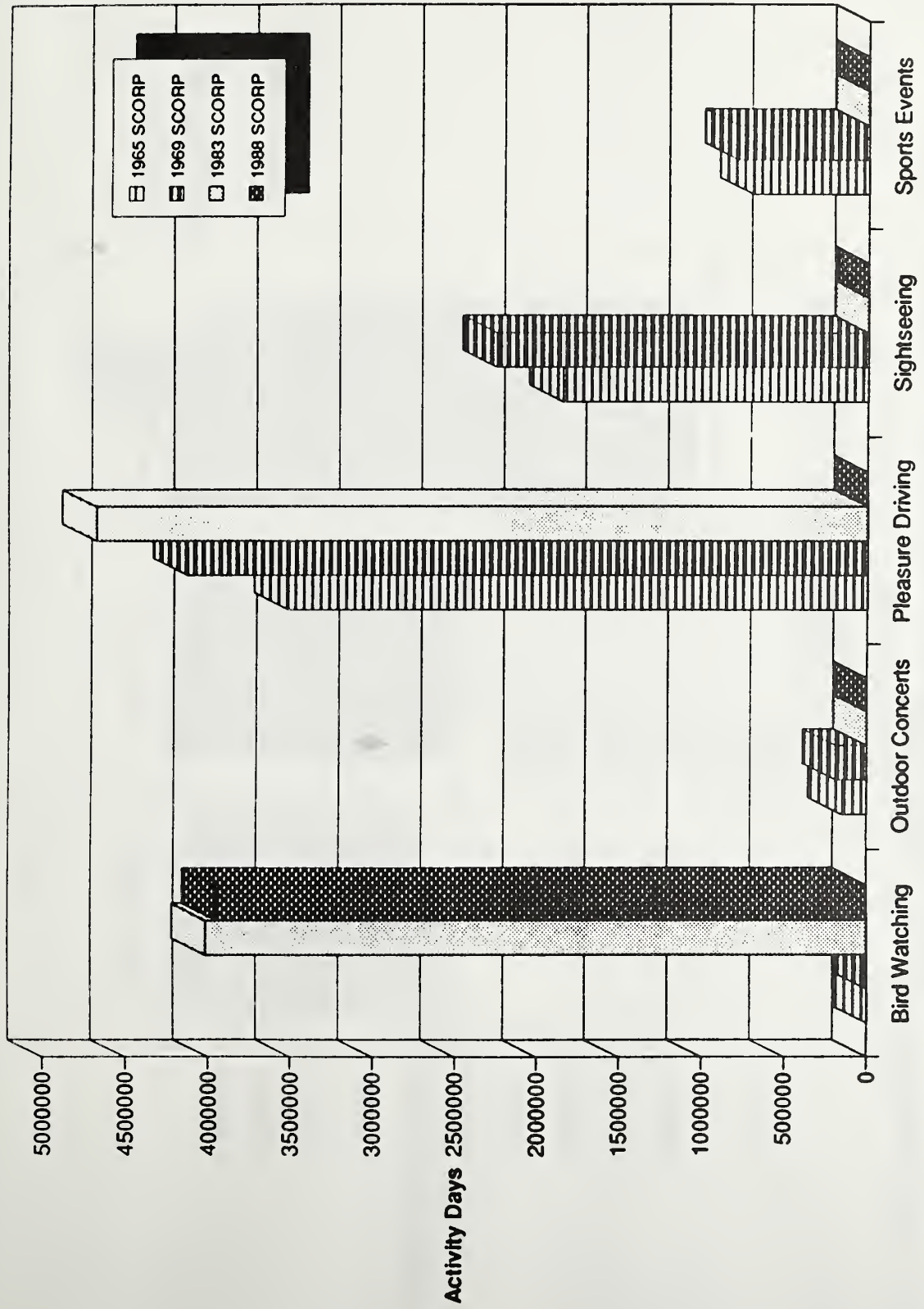
Activities showing zero participation represent activities that were not examined by the SCORP.

Figure 6: Hunting/Fishing Related Activities



Activities showing zero participation represent activities that were not examined by the SCORP.

Figure 7: Resident Participation in Appreciative/Spectator Activities



Activities showing zero participation represent activities that were not examined by the SCORP.

Playing Games

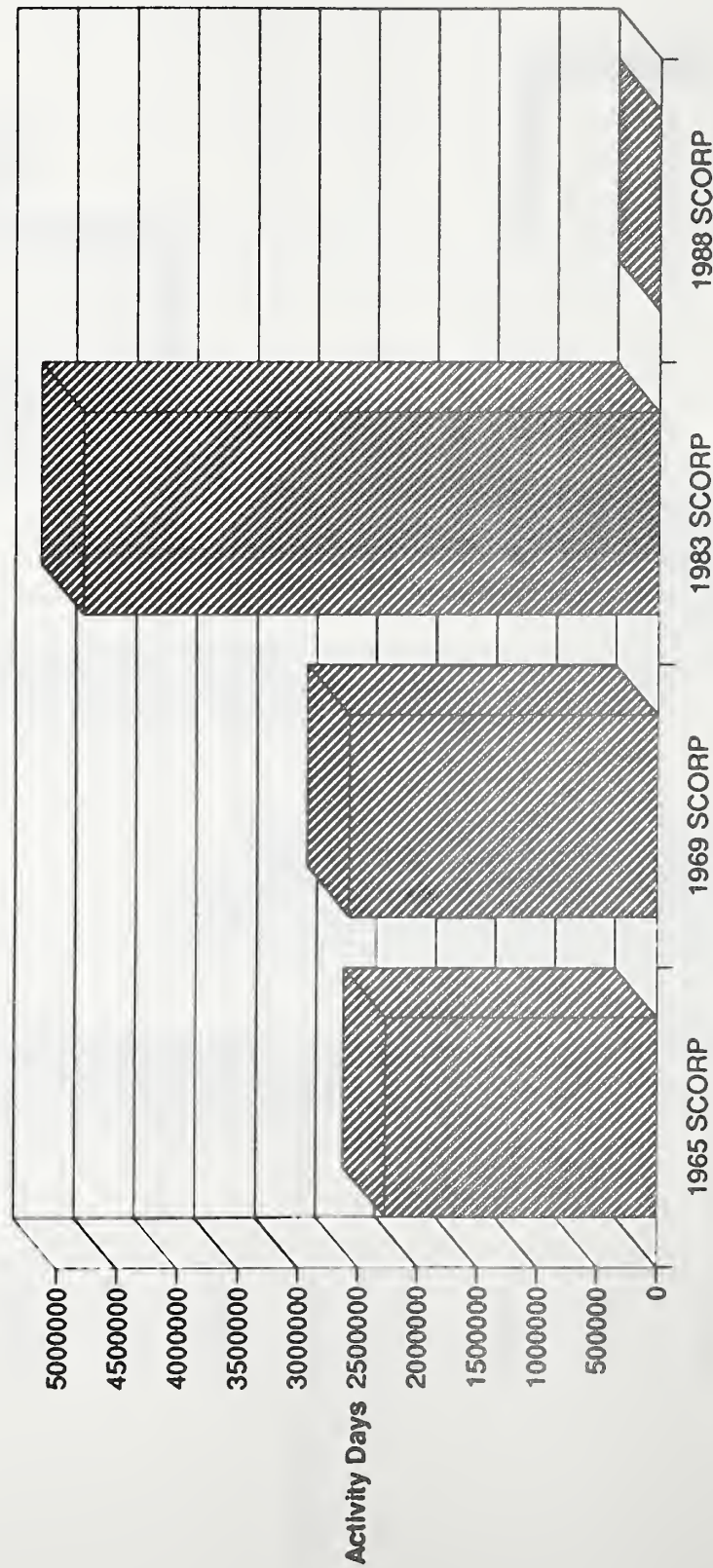
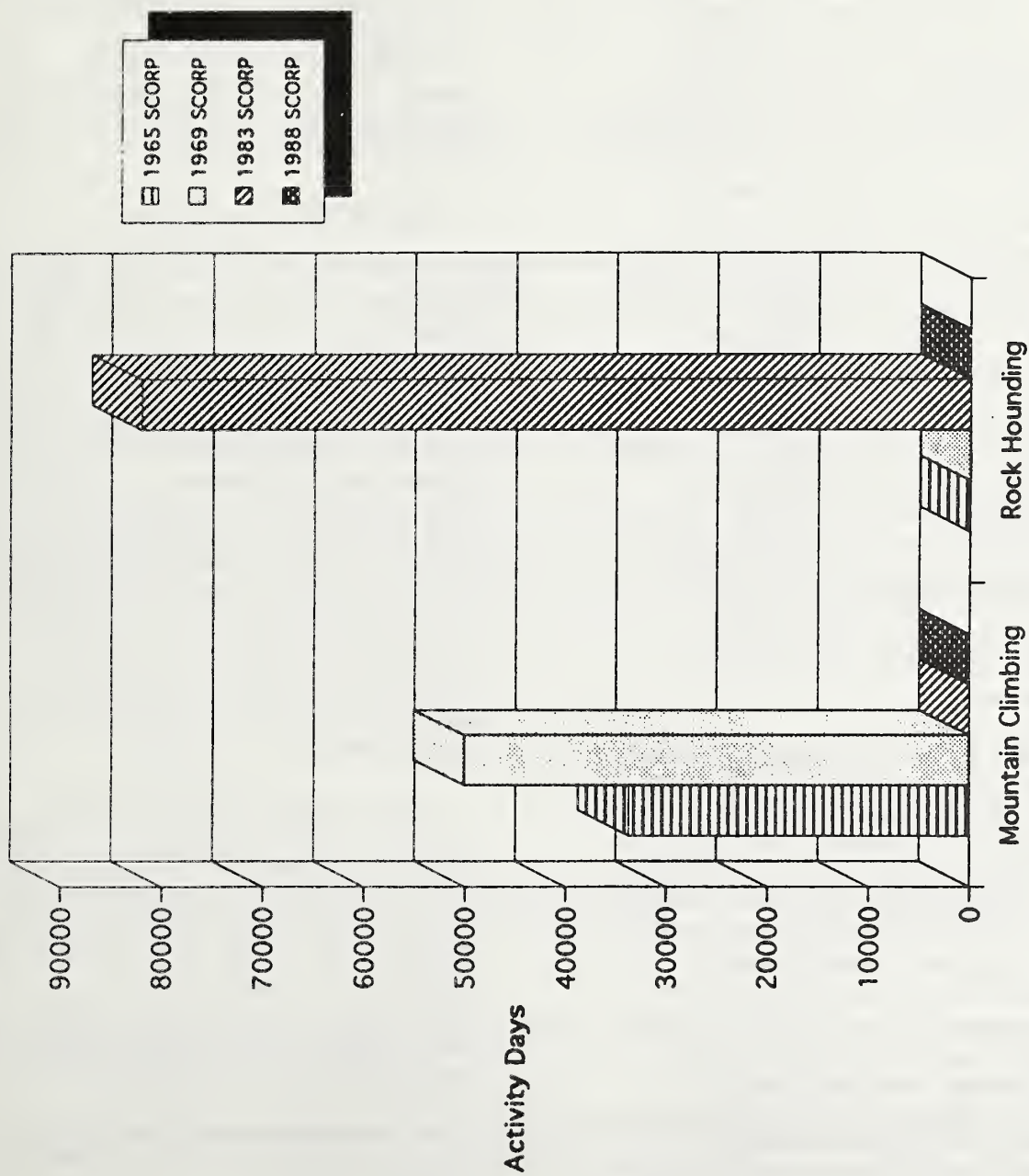


Figure 8: Resident Participation in the Activity "Playing Games"

Activities showing zero participation represent activities that were not examined by the SCORP.

Figure 9: Resident Participation -- Miscellaneous Activities



Activities showing zero participation represent activities that were not examined by the SCORP.

It would be useful to compare participation for the various years, but precise comparisons cannot be made with the data presented up to this point. This is due to the units of measurement used, confidence in the compatibility of the methods used, and the way activities were defined. For two SCORPs, the 1983 and the 1988, these obstacles were overcome -- both used the same unit of measure, compatible methods, and comparable activity definitions. In addition to these two SCORPs the Institute of Tourism and Recreation Research at The University of Montana recently examined recreation participation rates for Montana residents. This study, conducted in 1989 and 1990, is comparable to the 1983 and 1988 SCORPs. Since the participation rate for the 1983 SCORP came from a 1979 study and the participation rate for the 1988 SCORP came from a 1985 study, these three sources (the two SCORPs and the 1989-1990 data) provide participation data over the period of a decade from which to make reliable comparisons.

Table 2 shows the participation rates for the nine activities that were included in each of the above three studies. Participation is reported as the percent of residents who participated in the activity during the last year. Of the nine activities, five -- fishing, horseback riding, picnicking, cross country skiing, and snowmobiling-- remained quite stable across the ten-year period. Hunting and bicycling had modest increases while participation in camping decreased slightly. Alpine or downhill skiing was the only activity where participation changed drastically across the decade. In 1979, only about six percent of Montana's residents downhill skied in the previous year. By 1985, that figure was up to nearly 19 percent; and in 1989, nearly 25 percent of the adults in Montana skied during the previous year.

Of the nine activities examined, picnicking had the highest participation, with over 70 percent of the residents picnicking during the last year. Fishing

and camping had an average participation (over the the three study years) of 58 and 54 percent, respectively. Likewise, downhill skiing, cross-country skiing, and snowmobiling had an average participation of between 15 and 17 percent. Horseback riding, hunting, and bicycling had an average percent of participation between 39 and 21.

Non-Resident Participation

Three of the seven SCORPs, 1969, 1978, and 1983, contained information on participation rates for non-residents (Table 3). As was the case with residents, there are several limitations to the participation rates for non-residents. The units of measure differed by SCORP for non-resident participation. In 1969 and 1983, the results were reported in activity days, while the results were reported in occasions in 1978. There was also a lack of consistency in the activities reported. A total of 26 activities were reported in the three SCORPs. However, 19 of these activities were reported in one year and not the other two. In 1978, participation was reported only for camping.

Figure 10 graphically displays the non-resident participation rates. Although data exist for three SCORPs, only two of them are comparable. The 1969 and 1983 SCORPs both used activity days and can therefore be compared, while the 1978 SCORP used occasions and is not comparable. Again, the graph displays the magnitude of participation and not precise numbers. The 1969 and 1983 SCORPs reported non-resident participation for a total of 26 activities, seven of which were reported in both SCORPs.

A similar pattern holds for all seven of the activities (with the exception of picnicking) -- the number of activity days was substantially higher in 1969 than in 1983. The high participation rate in 1969 may be due to the methodology used. In 1969, a mail survey was used during each of the four seasons, requiring recall of activities. More activity days may have

Table 2: Comparison of Participation Rates 1979-1990

Activity	1979	1985	1990
	Participation ¹ (% of Respondents)	Participation ² (% of Respondents)	Participation ³ (% of Respondents)
Bicycling	32.8%	38.6%	38.8%
Camping	57.6%	51.9%	51.8%
Fishing	58.8%	56.4%	58.9%
Horseback Riding	18.8%	22.3%	21.2%
Hunting	35.2%	37.6%	42.6%
Picnicking	77.5%	74.8%	73.3%
Skiing - Alpine	57.0%	18.8%	24.6%
Skiing - Xcountry	14.6%	18.6%	17.8%
Snowmobiling	14.8%	16.3%	15.9%

¹ From: *Attitudes: Outdoor Recreation in Montana*, Bureau of Business and Economic Research, School of Business Administration, University of Montana, Missoula, December 1980.

² From: *The Montana Outdoor Recreation Needs Survey*, School of Forestry, University of Montana, Missoula, January 1986.

³ Research in progress, Institute of Tourism and Recreation, University of Montana, Missoula.

Table 3: Participation for Non-Resident Visitors to Montana¹

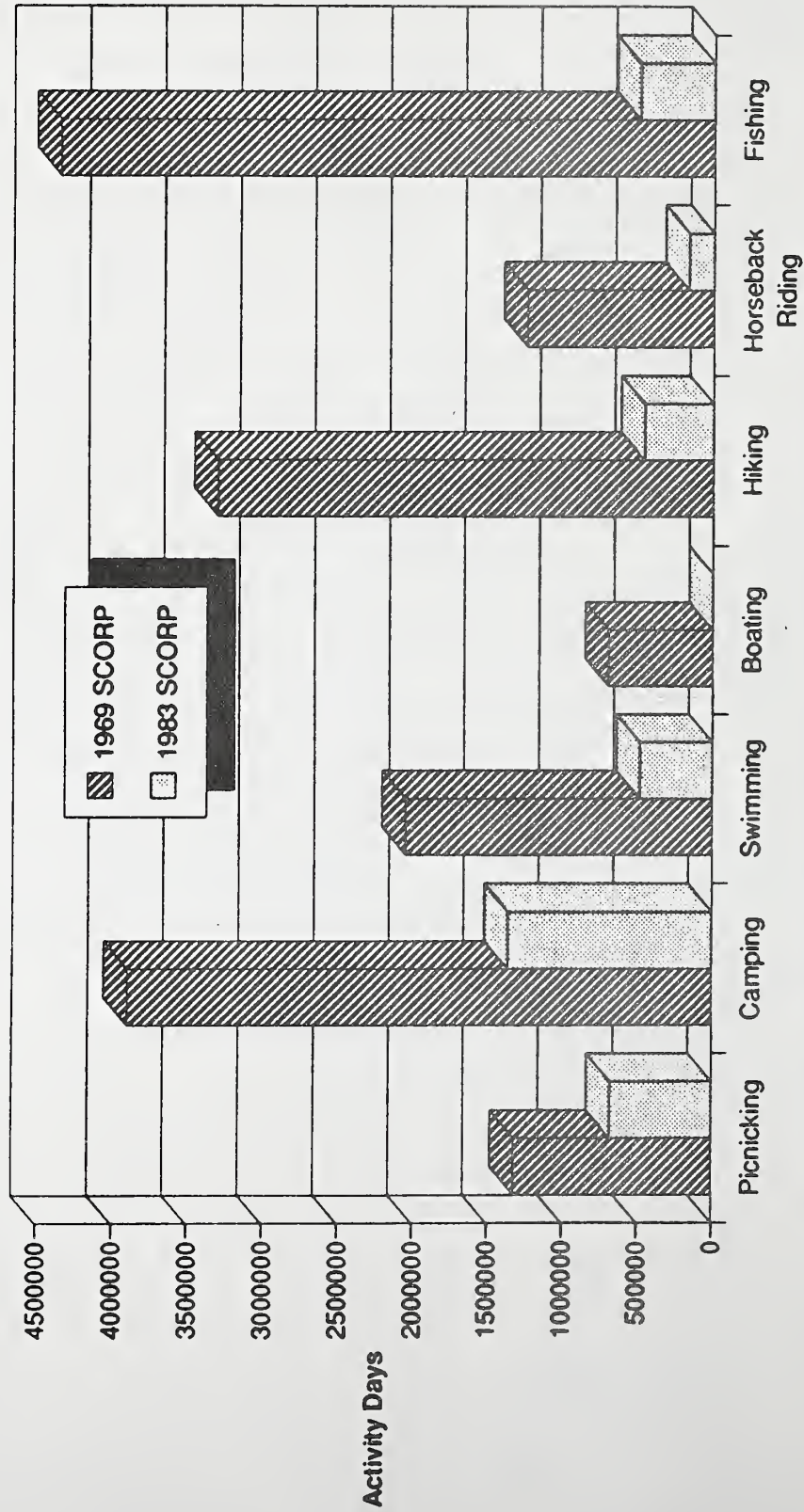
Activity	SCORP 1969 (Activity Days)	SCORP 1978 (Occasions)	SCORP 1983 (Activity Days)
Water-oriented Activities			
Boating	692,711	--	--
Boating -- Power	--	--	68,100
Canoeing	--	--	72,700
Sailing	--	--	11,000
Swimming	2,049,909	--	482,000
Water Skiing	132,137	--	39,500
Snow-oriented Activities			
Skiing -- Cross-Country	--	--	27,700
Skiing -- Downhill	--	--	110,600
Snowmobiling	--	--	8,300
Trail Activities			
Backpacking	--	--	94,300
Hiking	3,303,418	--	459,600
Horseback Riding	1,242,082	--	166,900
Nature Walks	7,267,517	--	--
ORV	--	--	166,700
Non-trail Activities			
Jogging	--	--	124,800
Walking	3,303,417	--	--
Camping/Picnicking Activities			
Camping	3,898,030	517,558	1,360,100
Picnicking	1,321,366	--	679,100
Hunting/Fishing Related Activities			
Fishing	4,347,294	--	496,300
Appreciative/Spectator Activities			
Attending Events	--	--	322,200
Sightseeing	12,896,542	--	--
Sports Events	1,057,096	--	--
Visiting Special Attractions	--	--	642,900
Visiting historic sites	--	--	433,100

Table 3 (continued)

Activity	SCORP 1969 (Activity Days)	SCORP 1978 (Occasions)	SCORP 1983 (Activity Days)
Team/Site Oriented Sport Activities			
Golfing	--	--	35,500
Tennis	--	--	40,900

- ¹ Non-resident participation data for the SCORPs was determined in the following ways:
- the 1969 SCORP used the total number of visitors as reported in the 1958 Montana Tourist Survey multiplied by the same activity rates used for Montana residents
 - the 1983 SCORP used the *1980 Old West Region Non-Resident Travel and Recreation Survey*

Figure 10: Non-Resident Participation Rates for 1969 and 1983



Activities showing zero participation represent activities that were not examined by the SCORP.

been reported since people had to recall participation over a three month period versus a 12 month period. In addition, a low return rate reduced the reliability of the results.

Comparison of Residents and Non-Residents

There are six activities - swimming, hiking, horseback riding, camping, picnicking, and fishing- in which there was both resident and non-resident participation data in 1969 and 1983. The percent of activity days attributed to residents and non-residents was compared for these two years (Figure 11). For all six activities, across the two years, there was an increase in activity days attributed to residents and a decrease attributed to non-residents. This change was the most pronounced for hiking and fishing, with the change in activity days being 61 and 67 percent, respectively. The percent of change for the remaining activities was between 25 and 29 percent, with the exception of picnicking which changed three percent.

Most Popular Activities

The popularity of activities is likely to change over a 23-year period as, for example, peoples' interests change, economic conditions change, and demographic characteristics change. This section examines the seven most participated in activities as reported in each of the six SCORPs.

1965 SCORP (Figure 12a) - Swimming was the most popular activity, accounting for 16.5 percent of activity days. This was followed closely by pleasure driving (16 percent), walking (11.9 percent), and playing games (10.4 percent). Of the seven activities, people participated in fishing the least (5.8 percent).

1969 SCORP (Figure 12b) - Fishing, which was the least participated in activity (of the seven examined) in 1965, was the

most popular activity in 1969, accounting for 13.8 percent of the activity days. Picnicking was the only other activity that accounted for more than 10 percent of the activity days. Boating was the least frequently participated in activity (6.5 percent) of the seven measured.

1973 SCORP (Figure 12c) - Pleasure driving, which was among the top three most popular activities in the previous two SCORPs, accounted for the most occasions per weekend (12.3 percent). No other activities accounted for more than 10 percent of the occasions per weekend. Picnicking and hunting were the next most popular activities, representing 9.7 and 9.4 percent, respectively, of the occasions per weekend. Hiking was the least popular activity (6.8 percent of the occasions per weekend) of the seven examined.

1978 SCORP (Figure 12d) - Camping was the most frequently participated in activity (18.9 percent of the occasions), followed by boating with 11.9 occasions. For the first time, ORV and snowmobiling were among the seven most participated in activities accounting for 9.2 and 5.8 percent of the occasions, respectively.

1983 SCORP (Figure 12e) - Walking was the most popular activity, representing 16.6 percent of the activity days. Playing games also accounted for over 10 percent of the activity days, followed by pleasure driving (9.9 percent) and fishing (9.5 percent). Of the seven most popular activities, swimming was participated in the least (7.6 percent).

1988 SCORP (Figure 12f) - Walking remained the most popular activity in 1988, accounting for 26.3 percent of the activity days. The next most popular activity was bicycling (8.8 percent). Fishing and bird watching had similar participation rates (7.7 and 7.6 respectively). Picnicking was the least participated in activity (5.1 percent) of the seven most popular activities.

Figure 11a: Proportion of Total Participation Attributed to Residents and Non-Residents (1969 SCORP)

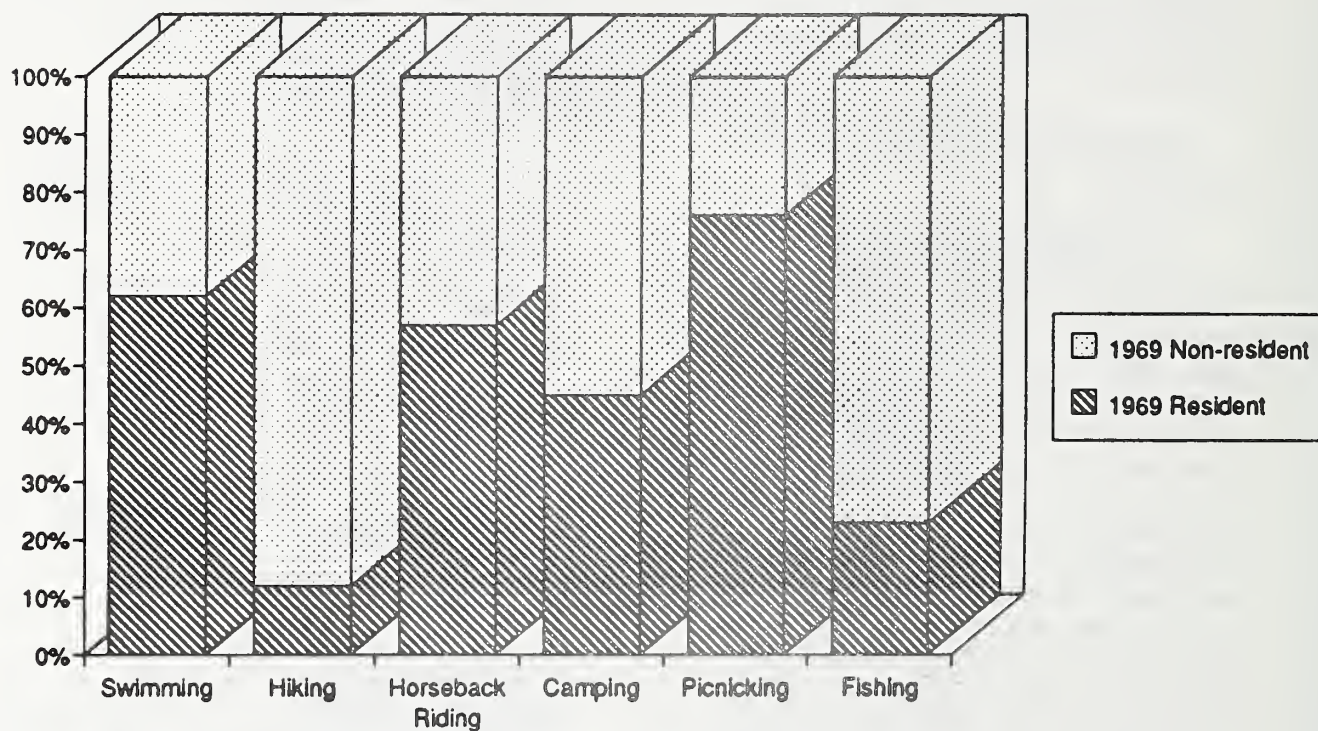


Figure 11b: Proportion of Total Participation Attributed to Residents and Non-Residents (1983 SCORP)

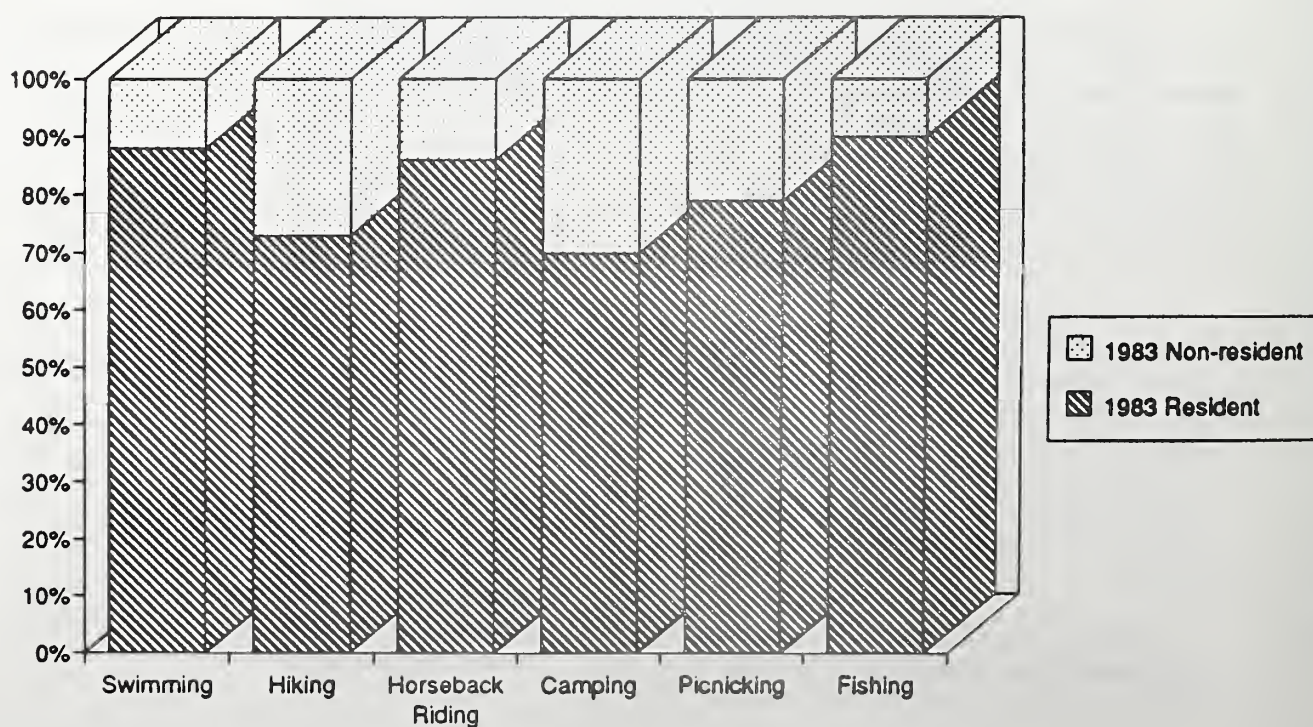
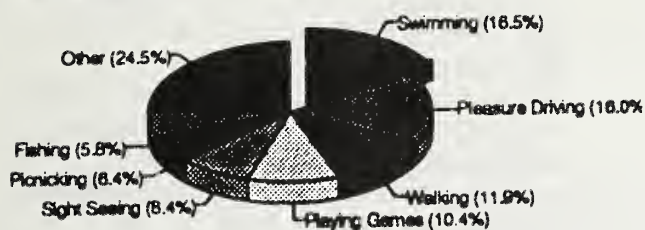
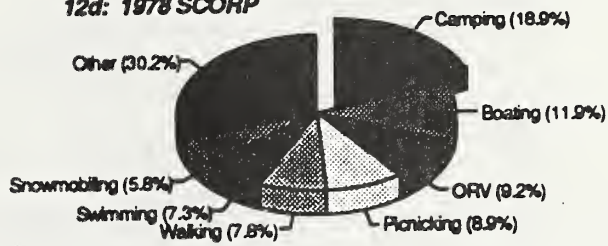


Figure 12: Most Frequently Participated in Activities by Year¹

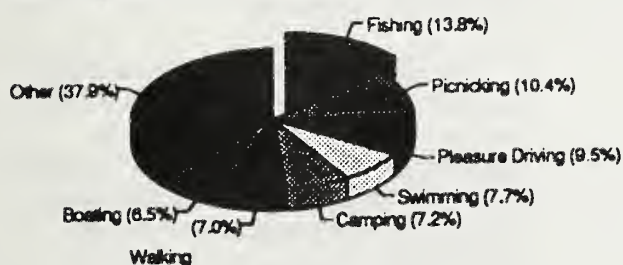
12a: 1965 SCORP



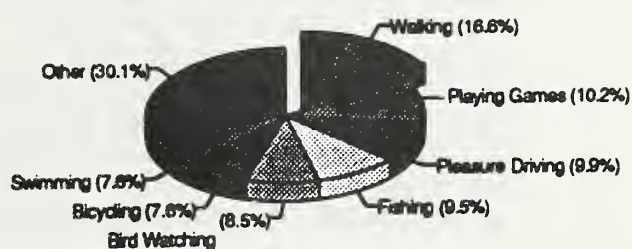
12d: 1978 SCORP



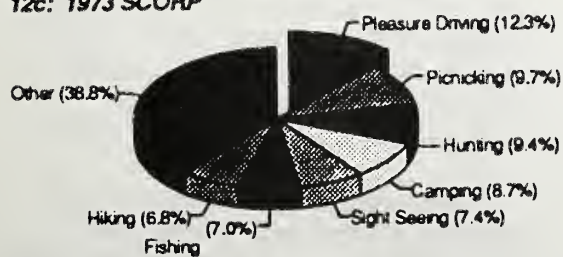
12b: 1969 SCORP



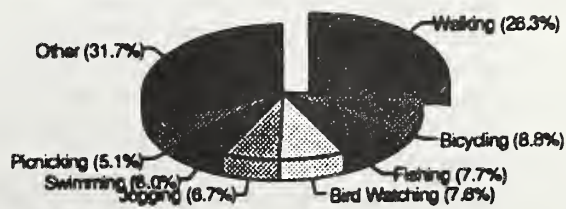
12e: 1983 SCORP



12c: 1973 SCORP



12f: 1988 SCORP

¹The exploded slice represents the single most participated in activity.

As indicated by Figures 12a through 12f, swimming, walking, picnicking and fishing were among the seven most popular activities for five of the six SCORPs. Driving for pleasure was among the most popular activities in four of the SCORPs, while camping emerged in three of them. This indicates that there is some consistency across the years in participation. Even so, certain activities were only popular in one time period. Five activities -- hunting, hiking, snowmobiling, ORV, and jogging -- were only among the most popular once.

Projections

Table 4 shows that 14 sets of projections were made from the six SCORPs. There was no consistency regarding when and how the projections were done. Some were for five-year intervals, and others were for ten-year intervals. The number of projections made also differed by SCORP. Half of the SCORPs made two projections, one made four projections, one made three projections, and one made one projection.

Although there are 14 sets of participation predictions, only a few can be compared with actual participation data. There are two reasons for this. First, since the unit of measurement differed in the 1973 and 1978 SCORPs, projections to or from those periods are not comparable. Second, actual participation data were not collected for some the years that projections were made. Given these limitations, there are two participation projections that may be reasonably comparable to actual participation: the 1969 projection to 1985 can be compared with 1985 participation data and the 1965 projection to 1970 can be compared to 1969 participation data. However, even for these periods, there are certain assumptions. For example, one assumption is that the questions used to elicit participation information were similar for the different years. Any changes in the survey instrument that affected participation rates make comparisons difficult. The extent to

which this may have occurred is unknown.

The 1965 and 1969 projections were made by estimating the population in the year for which the projection was made and multiplying this by an activity rate. The 1965 SCORP did not state how the population estimate was derived, but the activity rate was based on the participation rate supplied by the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation. No indication was given regarding how the Bureau established the participation rate. In 1969, the population estimate came from the U.S. Bureau of Census reports and estimates by the Survey Research Center, Bureau of Business and Economic Research, University of Montana. The participation rates were based on straight line interpolation of the estimated percentage changes in activity rates.

Participation projections were made for 1985 in 1969. Since a SCORP was not done in 1985, it is necessary to determine 1985 participation from another source. In order to determine the actual participation in activity days, the 1985 population estimate of the number of persons 18 years of age or older in Montana (592,000) was taken from the U.S. Census Bureau 1987 Statistical Abstract of the United States. This figure was multiplied by the percent of residents (18 years and older) who participated in the specific activity and by the median number of days of participation. These two figures came from the Recreation Needs Survey conducted by The University of Montana in 1984-1985.

There were nine activities in which projections were made in 1969, and participation was examined in 1985 (Figure 13). These activities were swimming, ice skating, horseback riding, bicycling, camping, picnicking, fishing, hunting, and golf. The projections for these activities were somewhat different from the actual participation. For our purpose, a projection was considered accurate if the actual participation was within five percent of the projection. Since none

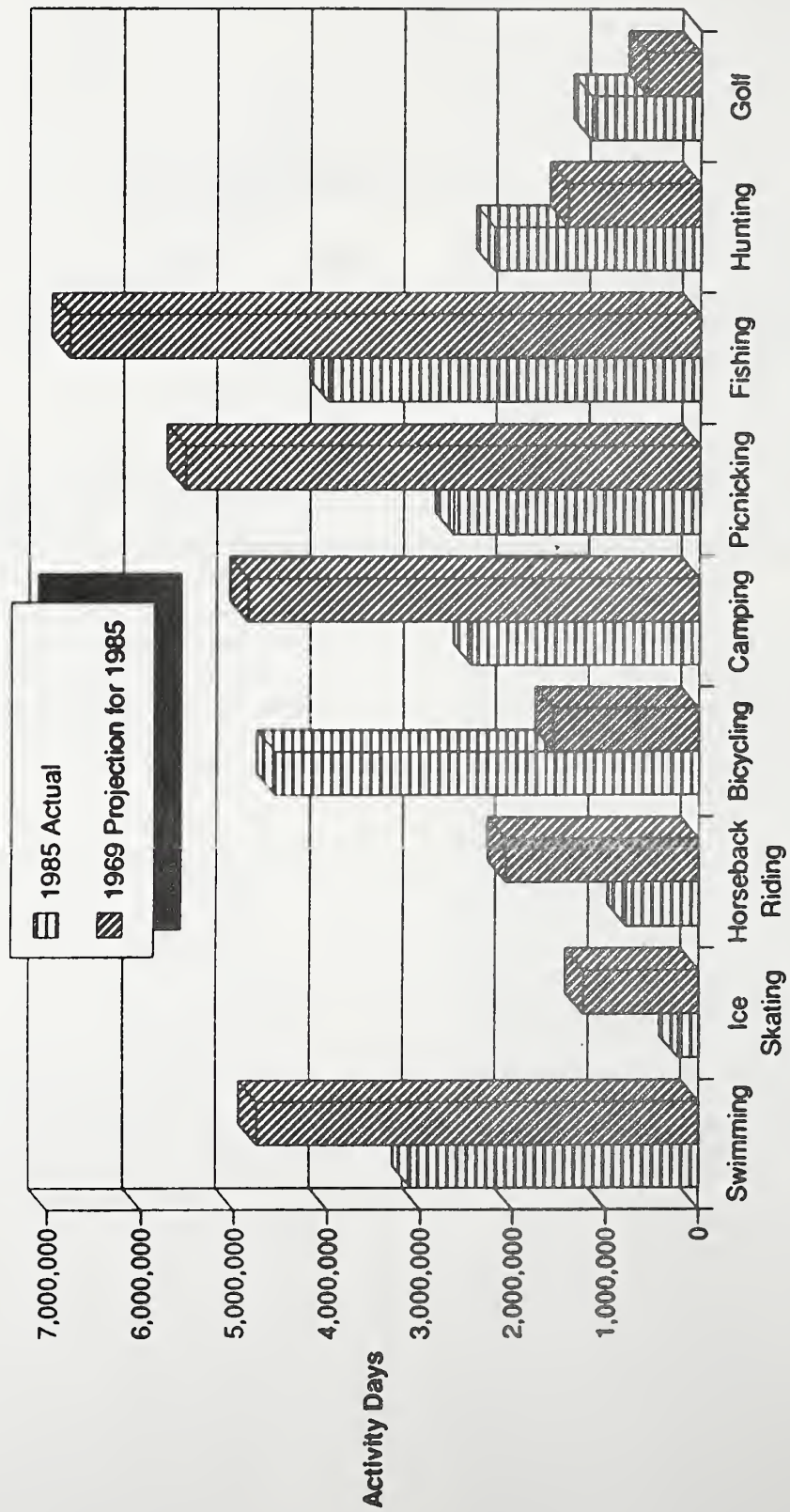
Table 4: Comparison of SCORP Projections

Year Projected To

Year of SCORP 1970 1975 1980 1985 1990 2000

1965	x	x				
1969		x		x		
1973		x	x	x	x	
1978			x	x	x	
1983					x	
1988					x	x

Figure 13: Comparison of 1985 Actual Participation with the 1969 Projection for 1985



of the nine activity projections were within five percent of the actual participation, these projections are not considered accurate.

The 1965 projection to 1970 was compared with participation in 1969 (Figure 14). Participation data were not available for 1970, and 1969 participation was used. Given that this was a five-year, as opposed to a 16-year projection (as was the previous example), the projections would be expected to be and were found to be more accurate. As shown in Figure 14, there were 21 activities for which there were projections as well as actual participation data. Nine of the 21 activity projections were within five percent of the actual participation and were therefore considered accurate. Accurate projections were made for canoeing, hiking, nature walks, bicycling, attending outdoor concerts, pleasure driving, sight seeing, attending sport events, and playing games.

Recommendations

During examination of the participation rates and projections in the previous SCORPs, several ways in which to improve future SCORPs became apparent. The recommendations can be summarized as follows:

1. Include more detailed explanations
2. Include operational definitions
3. Use a consistent set of activities
4. Use the same interval when making projections and make a consistent number of projections
5. Use a standard methodology to make projections

Include More Detailed Explanations

The first recommendation involves the explanations of what was done and how. In several of the SCORPs, especially the earlier ones, explanations lacked sufficient

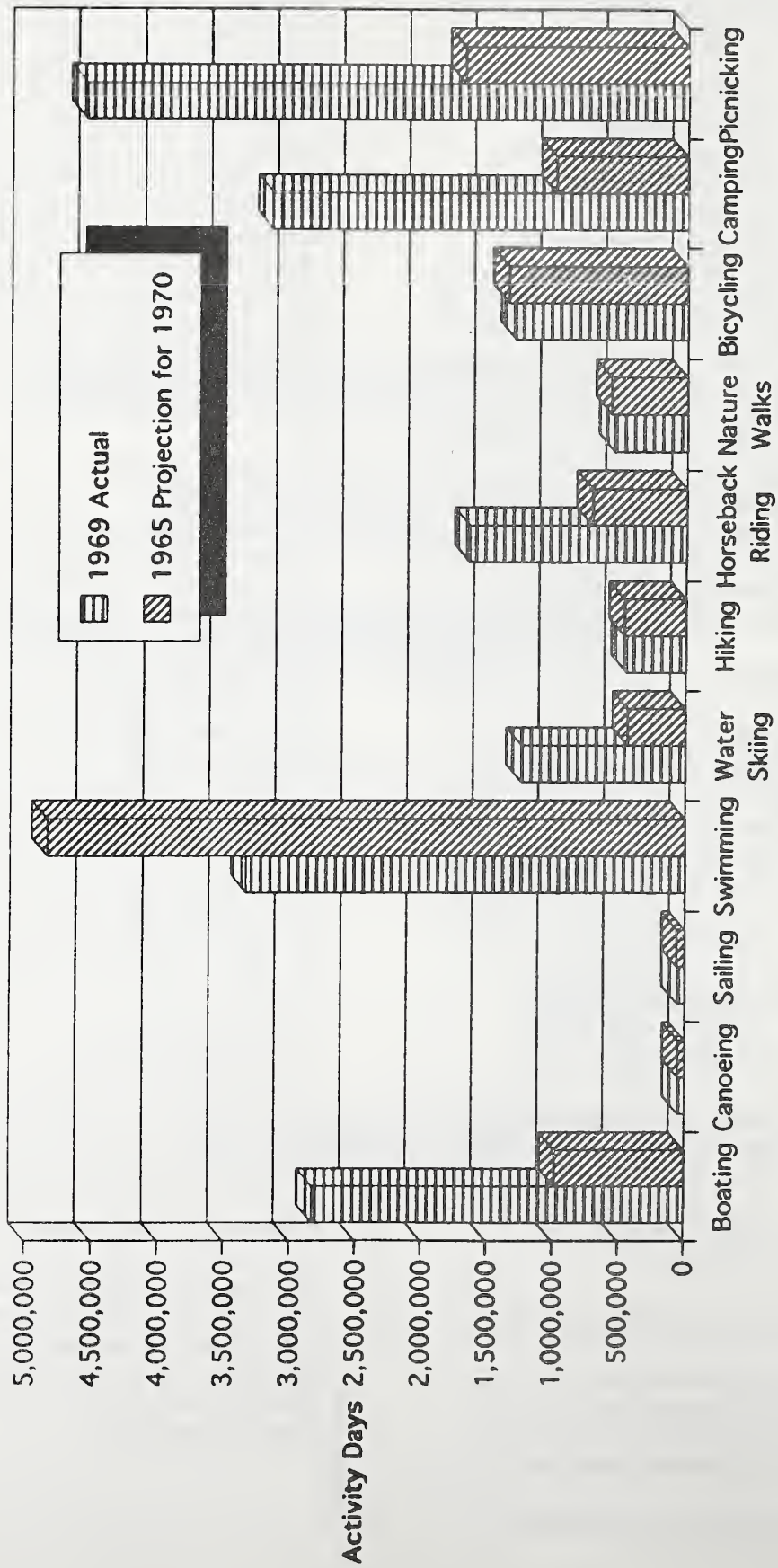
detail. An explanation of the rationale

behind what was done was often not provided. In addition, the terms and methodologies used were often not explained in sufficient detail. This resulted in a less than clear understanding of what was meant or what was done. For example, the 1965 SCORP simply stated that in calculating activity days, the participation rate used was taken from the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation. For the present research it was important to know not only where the participation rate came from, but also how it was derived. No information regarding how the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation determined the participation rate was provided.

Include Operational Definitions

The second recommendation involves the need to include operational definitions in the SCORPs. The lack of definitions caused problems since, when it was unclear what was meant, tenuous assumptions had to be made. The lack of operational definitions was most apparent with the units of measurement and the activities used. In 1973, for example, participation was measured in occasions per weekend. Since no operational definition was given, it could not be determined if occasions per weekend could be made comparable with the participation measures used in other SCORPs. As a result, the 1973 data could not be used to examine participation trends or the accuracy of the projections. Operational definitions are also needed for the activities. For example, activities such as walking, day hiking, and nature walks were used in the various SCORPs, often without describing what they entailed. Given the lack of description, it is unclear if these activities refer to the same activity or to a variety of different activities. Day hiking, for example, was reported only in 1988; it is unknown if it is comparable to walking, which was reported in the previous five SCORPs. Providing operational definitions would clarify this problem.

Figure 14: Comparison of 1969 Actual Participation with the 1965 SCORP Projection for 1970



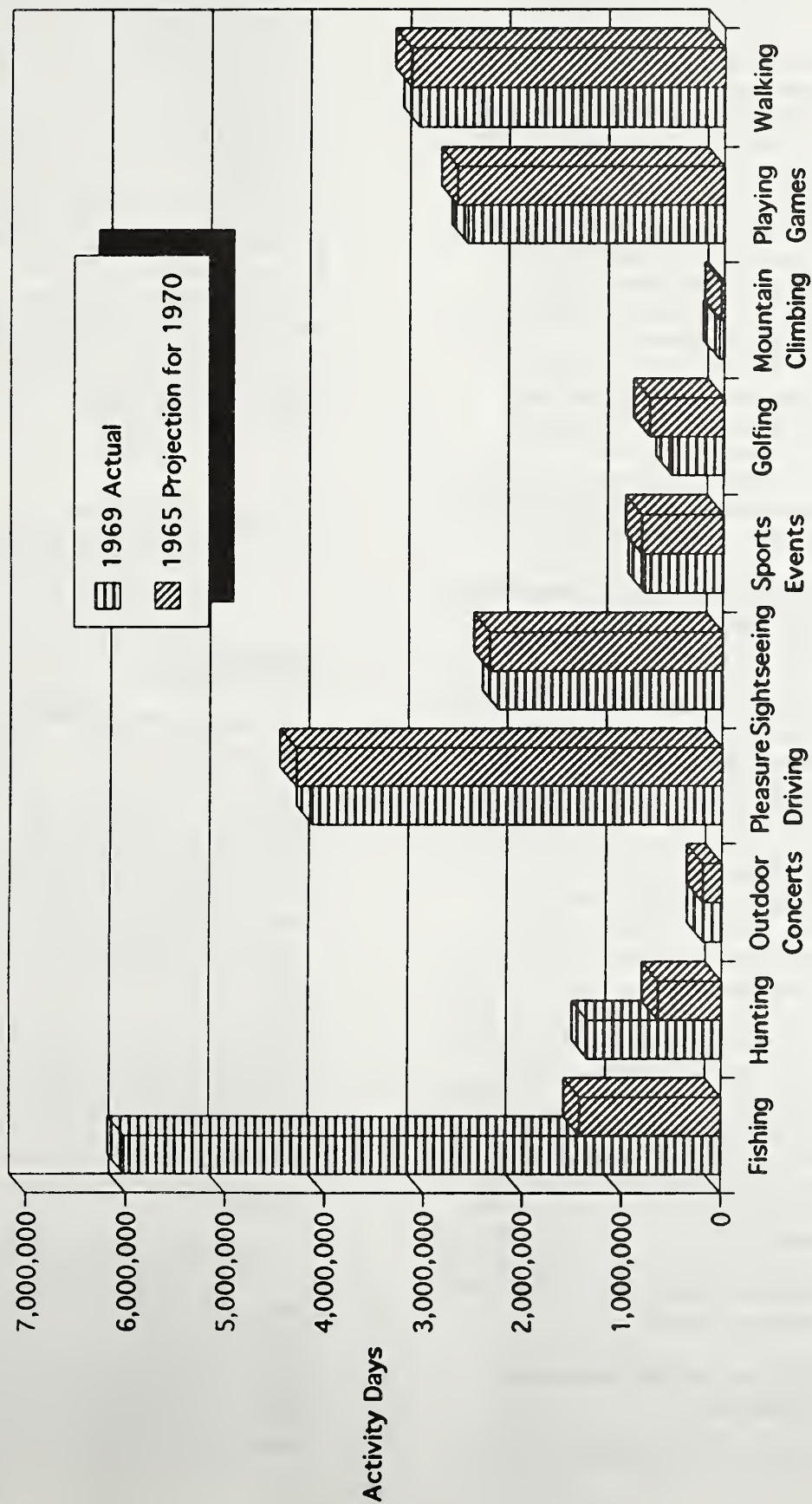


Figure 14 (continued)

Use A Consistent Set Of Activities

The third recommendation concerns the activities examined in the various SCORPs. Participation was reported for a total of 47 activities in the six SCORPs. However, not all the activities were used in every SCORP, and it is unclear how the activities were selected. The result is that comparisons across time are difficult. For example, the participation rate for water skiing was reported in 1965, 1969, and 1988 but not reported in 1973, 1978, and 1983. Since there is no data for almost two decades, comparisons are severely limited. A consistent set of activities is needed in future SCORPs. These activities should be selected based on the magnitude of participation and the relevance or importance to DFWP.

Use The Same Interval When Making Projections And Make A Consistent Number Of Projections

The fourth recommendation concerns the interval used to make projections and the number of projections made. The participation projection intervals should also be made consistent. In some years, the projections were made at five-year intervals and in other years at ten-year intervals. In addition, the number of projections made differed across the SCORPs. One made four projections, while another made one. All projections should be made on the same interval, and at least three projections should be made. Three projections at five-year intervals would provide overlap between SCORPs that would allow comparisons. In addition, if the SCORPs were conducted on five-year intervals, the participation projections could be compared to actual participation. This problem was identified in the current study; past SCORPs made participation projections to years in which no data were collected.

Use A Standard Methodology To Make Projections

The fifth recommendation concerns

how projections are made. Projections are inherently difficult to make because they are influenced by changes in economics, population demographics, activity popularity and the like. Not only should attempts be made to minimize error in projections, but a standardized methodology should be used to make projections. The 1987 research paper, *Outdoor Recreation Participation in Montana: Trends and Implications*, by McCool and Frost explains a method for making participation projections that uses age data. While a standardized methodology will not minimize the error, it will make all of the projections subject to the same influences.

SECTION TWO - ISSUES AND ACTIONS

Introduction

Although not traditionally considered a component in SCORPs, issues and recommended actions have been identified in the more recent plans. Early SCORPs did not contain an issues section, but issues transcended the SCORP itself. Regardless of the SCORP format, particular issues emerged that were related to topics important at that time. For example, energy emerged as an issue during the energy crisis in the late 1970s. Similarly, as concern for the environment increased in the late 1960s, environmental issues appeared in the SCORPs. In addition to the issues, actions recommended to resolve the issues were also presented.

Overview

Various issues emerged or were identified within the seven SCORPs. Only the 1973 and 1988 SCORPs clearly listed and discussed key issues as such, and only the 1988 SCORP also identified recommended actions associated with each key issue. The 1983 SCORP clearly defined recommendations and policies, but key issues

were not as evident. The 1978 SCORP listed 16 "major issues to be resolved," but there were no discussions, recommended actions, or policy statements associated with any of these issues. In this case, the "major tasks" listed in the strategic plan for the state parks program were identified by the researchers as key issues. The issues and actions for the 1965, 1967 and 1969 SCORPs had to be extracted from the text, since they were not readily identified.

There was considerable variation in the number of key issues within the seven SCORPs. Five issues were identified in 1965, while 23 issues were identified in 1988. The issues covered a wide array of subjects ranging from energy to tourism to wildlife.

The issues and recommended actions are presented in three sections. Issues are identified and discussed in the first section. Recommended actions to resolve the identified issues are highlighted and conclusions are drawn in the second section. The third section contains comments on ways to improve future SCORPs.

Review of Issues

The seven SCORPs contained a diverse array of issues. In all, 61 issues were discussed. Table 5 lists the key issues by year for each of the seven SCORPs. (Appendix B contains a more detailed description of the issues addressed in each SCORP.)

Given the number and variety of issues, it was difficult to determine if the issues have changed or remained the same over time. For this reason it was useful to group similar issues together into categories. Twenty-three categories were created for this purpose. Table 6 shows the issues in each category. The categories containing the most issues are financing/funding, roles/coordination of agencies and natural environment/environmental quality. Categories containing three or four issues include conflict, access, liability/regulation/enforcement, winter sports, off-highway/bikes and tourism. Most of the issues fall into one of the above nine categories. The remaining 14 categories

contain only one or two issues each.

Table 7 shows the numbers of issues in the categories by SCORP year. Arranging the issues categorically, by year, provides an indication of their relative importance over time. Some conclusions can be inferred:

1. Issues related to funding/financing, roles in recreation/coordination, the environment, and tourism consistently surfaced during each of the three decades.
2. Only one category of issues, general facilities, emerged in the early years and not in any of the later years.
3. Several new issues arose in the 1980s: access, conflict, winter sports, wilderness, energy, wildlife, cultural resources, public involvement, crowding, and liability/regulation/enforcement.
4. Relatively few issues surfaced only in the 1970s (land acquisition, public land use, and urban recreation). These issues were not identified in the 1960s or the 1980s SCORPs.
5. The 1988 SCORP identified more issues than any other SCORP.
6. Roles in recreation and coordination between agencies were key issues until 1978. After 1978, their importance diminished.
7. The general evolvement of issues through the past three decades has been consistent with topics that have been prevalent at the time. For example, in 1965, when the first SCORP was completed concerns for facilities and funding were emphasized to justify land and water conservation funds. Similarly, environmental protection issues began emerging in the late 1960s as a result of the environmental movement. Energy was an issue in

Table 5: Key Issues by SCORP

KEY ISSUES

1965 SCORP

1. Lack of Facilities
2. Financing
3. Coordination with Other Groups of Agencies
4. Need for Visitor Use/Activity Data and Resource Inventories
5. Role of Private Enterprise

1967 SCORP

Same Issues as in the 1965 SCORP, plus Quality Aspects and Aesthetic Values, Near-to-Home Facilities, and Montana Unique Opportunities

1969 SCORP

1. Environmental Quality
2. Recreational Development Plan
3. Changing Needs
4. Acquisition
5. Potential Use of Public Land
6. Role of Government

1973 SCORP

1. Dispersed Recreation Use
2. Land Acquisition for Water-Oriented Recreation
3. All-Terrain Vehicles
4. Recreation for the Disadvantaged
5. Non-Resident Recreation
6. Private Sector Recreation
7. Role of Local Community
8. Urban Recreation
9. Role of Individual

1978 SCORP

1. Maintenance of State Parks
2. Alternative Funding Sources

3. Regional Management Plans
4. Off-highway Vehicle Management
5. Administration of Land & Water Conservation Fund Grants
6. Protection of Cultural, Scientific and Recreational Resources

1983 SCORP

1. Recreation access
2. Bikeways
3. Cross-country skiing
4. Destination vacationing
5. Downhill skiing
6. Energy and recreation
7. Recreation and park law enforcement
8. Montana snowmobile program
9. Montana wilderness synopsis

1988 SCORP

1. Funding
2. River Management
3. Tourism
4. Overuse/crowding
5. Recreationist/landowner relations
6. Agency roles
7. Economics
8. Visitor access
9. User fees
10. Wildlife
11. Bicycling
12. Wilderness
13. Mechanized vs non-mechanized
14. Water quality
15. Highways
16. Liability insurance
17. Management decision making
18. Disabled issues
19. Stream access
20. Cross-country skiing
21. Cultural resources
22. Litter/garbage
23. Vandalism/misuse/abuse

Table 6: Key Issues by Category

Category	Year and Issue Number						
Financing/Funding	1965#2	1978#2	1978#5	1988#1	1988#7	1988#9	
Roles in Recreating/ Coordination	1965#3	1965#5	1969#6	1973#6	1973#7	1973#9	1988#6
Liability/Regulation/ Enforcement	1983#7	1988#16	1988#22	1988#23			
Access	1983#1	1988#8	1988#19				
Conflict	1988#2	1988#5	1988#13				
Land Acquisition	1969#4	1973#2					
Winter Sports	1983#3	1983#5	1983#8	1988#20			
Natural Environment/ Environmental Quality	1967#1	1967#3	1969#1	1978#6	1988#14		
Off-Highway/Bikes	1973#3	1978#4	1983#2	1988#11			
Tourism	1965#4	1973#5	1988#3				
Use/Potential Use of Public Lands	1969#5	1973#1					
Wilderness	1983#9	1988#12					
Disadvantaged	1973#4	1988#18					
Energy	1983#4	1983#6					
Maintenance	1978#1	1988#15					
General Facilities	1965#1	1967#2					
Management	1969#2	1978#3					
Wildlife	1988#10						
Cultural Resources	1988#21						
Public Involvement	1988#17						
Urban Recreation	1973#8						
Crowding	1988#4						
Changing Needs	1969#3						

Key to numbers = first four digits indicate the SCORP year and the following number represents the corresponding issue number from Table 5. For example, there were six issues that dealt with financing/funding. In 1978 there were two issues related to this: one dealt with alternative funding sources and the other with the administration of land & Water Conservation fund grants.

Table 7: Number of Key Issues Categorically by SCORP Year

Category	1965	1967	1969	1973	1978	1983	1988	Total
Roles in Recreation/Coordination	2	-	1	3	-	-	1	7
Financing/Funding	1	-	-	-	2	-	3	6
Natural Environment/Environment Quality	-	2	1	-	1	-	1	5
Liability/Regulation/Enforcement	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	4
Winter Sports	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	4
Off-Highway/Bikes	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	4
Access	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	3
Conflict	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3
Tourism	1	-	-	1	-	-	1	3
Acquisition	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	2
Use/Potential Use of Public Lands	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	2
Wilderness	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2
Disadvantaged	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	2
Energy	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2
Maintenance	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	2
General Facilities	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	2
Management	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	2
Wildlife	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Cultural Resources	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Public Involvement	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Urban Recreation	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Crowding	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Changing Needs	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
TOTAL	5	3	6	9	6	9	23	61

the 1983 SCORP after the energy crises of 1979 and 1981. Similarly, wilderness issues in the 1983 and 1988 SCORP reflected the wilderness debates in Montana during the 1980s.

8. There was a large increase in the number of issues addressed from 1965 to 1988. The 1988 SCORP contained 23 issues, while the 1965 SCORP contained only five. The increased number of issues may be attributed to the emphasis on, and attention given to, recreation issues because of the 1985 Montana Outdoor Recreational Needs Survey and the Governor's Forum on Montana's Outdoors. The 1988 SCORP appears to reflect the positive response of the DFWP to user concerns made apparent by the 1985 study and the governor's forum.

Comparison of Issues

The *SCORP Planning in Review*, a 1989 document that reviewed SCORPs from around the country, identified the most frequently addressed issues in the SCORPs of the late 1980s (Table 8). Nationally, the three most frequently addressed issues were funding, natural resources, and information and education. The top issues in Montana in 1988 were funding, conflict (among user groups), and liability/regulation/enforcement. In 1988, there were three issues dealing with each of these areas.

A comparison can be made between the issues identified in Montana and those identified in the rest of the nation. Of the most important issues, funding was the only one Montana shared with the rest of the nation. These findings suggest that Montana is similar to many other states in terms of the concern about funding. As budgets become smaller or less stable, states are forced to deal with issues related to inadequate funding. Nationally, liability and law enforcement ranked 23 and 24 out of the 25 most frequently addressed issues. User conflict was not one of the top 25 national issues.

User conflict may have been incorporated into other issues or it may not have been perceived as an important issue.

Actions

Throughout Montana's SCORP history, there were a myriad of actions recommended to resolve key issues. Appendix C displays the actions for each of the issues identified in the previous section.

Some observations and inferences can be made from the actions in Appendix C:

1. More than three hundred actions were identified in the SCORPs. Even though they were spread out over the seven SCORPs, this is a substantial number.
2. There was no apparent consistent or formalized format for the recommended actions. The actions were presented in a variety of ways: from the general "increase public awareness" to the specific "raise cabin site fees to fair market value" and from the simple "make garbage receptacles more visible" to the complex "institute an interagency planning system."
3. There was no apparent effort in the SCORP process to track actions from one SCORP to another to determine if the actions were completed. Therefore, it is unknown whether any particular action was taken and, if it was, whether it achieved the desired results. The lack of monitoring makes it impossible to evaluate the impact of a particular action on a given issue. One reason actions cannot be tracked from SCORP to SCORP is that they are most often presented without giving a time frame for their completion. This open-ended nature does not facilitate evaluation of the actions.
4. Some types or categories of actions surfaced repeatedly, including

Table 8: Frequency of Issues in SCORPs Nationwide¹

Issue	Description	Freq.
Inadequate funding	Lack of sufficient or stable funds	41
Natural resources	Protection and management of natural areas	41
Information and Education	Increasing the public's awareness	32
Coordination and Cooperation	Sharing of responsibility among public and private	27
Management and Maintenance	Increasing agency ability to operate facilities	23
Special Populations	Provision of adequate opportunities	22
Land Acquisition	Acquisition of additional outdoor recreation lands	21
Access to Public Lands	Improving the ability of the public to use lands	19
Urban and Local Recreation	Provision of adequate close-to-home opportunities	18
Facility Development	Need for more recreation facilities to meet demand	17
Historic and Cultural	Better protection and management of resources	16
Environmental Quality	Concerns about toxics, water quality, etc.	14
Comprehensive Planning	Need for long-range comprehensive planning	13
Open Space, Greenways	Acquisition of land for urban purposes	13
Wetlands	Acquisition and management of wetlands	12
Water-Based Recreation	Creation of opportunities for water-based recreation	12
Tourism, Economic Development	Value of recreation for tourism, economic development	12
Economic Values	Understanding of economic benefits	10

Table 8 (continued)

Issue	Description	Freq.
Trails	Development of trails on land and water	10
Rivers, Floodplains	Acquisition of flowing waters and adjacent lands	10
Private Lands and Facilities	Increased participation of the private sector	10
Population Pressures	Problems caused by growth and distribution of population	10
Law Enforcement	Issues of public safety and comfort	8
Liability	Problems related to insurance and risk management	8
General Research	Basic and applied research related to outdoor recreation	6

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efforts to determine alternate funding sources and user fees; actions to define and delineate roles of federal, state, county, local and private agencies in management; and environmental actions to protect Montana's resource quality. This repetition was expected since the issues related to these actions were repeatedly raised in the SCORPs.

5. There was a trend over the three decades from the more general to the more specific actions. The recommended actions in the early SCORPs were general, providing only overall direction, whereas the recommended actions in the later SCORPs were more action oriented and more specific.

Recommendations

During examination of key issues and recommended actions in the past SCORPs, several ways in which to improve future SCORPs became apparent. The recommendations include:

1. Add a "monitoring" section
2. Establish a specific format
3. Explain how issues were delineated

Add a "monitoring" section

The first recommendation involves adding a section to future SCORPs in which the issues and actions of the previous SCORP are reviewed. It is possible to follow the development of SCORPs over their 25-year history, from the initial efforts in the 1960s to establish agency roles and determine resource supply and demand, to the issue/resolution orientation of the 1980s. Aside from this general observation, however, few observations can be made about issues and actions from one SCORP to the next. There is no apparent attempt in any of the plans to review previous issues or recommended actions for the purpose of evaluation or monitoring. Instead each SCORP has been autonomous from the previous SCORP.

Therefore, information is not available to track issues over time or to determine progress. The result is that it is difficult or impossible to know whether actions were taken or if issues were resolved. To overcome this, a review process is needed. For example, the 1988 issues and actions should be reviewed in the 1993 SCORP. In doing so, the success of actions to date should be evaluated, and a positive commitment to close-out, modify or continue each issue previously listed should be made.

Establish a specific format

The second recommendation concerns the format of the key issues and recommended actions. There should be a section for key issues and recommended actions, and it should be clearly labeled as such. For example, the format could include the name of the issue and a description of the issue. Immediately following this, the recommended actions could be specified. Such a format would facilitate the identification of each key issue which would prove helpful to planners and would help measure future progress.

In addition recommended actions should be specific, realistic and include definite time frames for completion. For example, with the issue of crowding, one of the recommended actions was to "increase the number of sites in the park system." This action is not specific and no time frame is given. Without these two elements, it cannot be determined if the action was achieved. A more useful recommended action would be to "increase the number of primitive sites in the park system by ten over the next five years." This recommended action would enable planners to judge whether the action was achieved and its impact in resolving the issue.

Explain how issues were delineated

This recommendation involves the need to include an explanation of how key issues were delineated. Did one person unilaterally determine what the issues were, or were the issues determined by a group? Was this group composed of lay people or professionals? How much input did each person or group have? For example, the 1988

SCORP stated that user input was important (from the Montana Outdoor Recreation Needs Survey and the Governor's Forum on Montana Outdoors). Whether issues evolve from users or from a meeting of recreation professionals, the source should be explained.

In addition to explaining how the issues were determined, it is important that they be determined the same way. When issues are determined differently from one SCORP to the next, comparisons among the SCORPs lack reliability. Instead of one method being used for one SCORP and another being used for the next, a consistent method should be utilized.

SECTION THREE - RECREATION NEEDS

Introduction

One of the components in a SCORP is the determination of recreation need. Need is directly related to supply of and demand for recreation. The facilities or settings provided to satisfy recreators needs are considered to be "supply." "Demand" is thought of as the amount and type of facilities or opportunities that will satisfy recreators needs. Recreation need exists when there is not enough supply to meet demand. Although demand should drive supply, this is not always the case. Sometimes facilities are developed, and the new supply creates demand. Providing supply often creates participation, but this does not necessarily lead to participant satisfaction. When demand drives supply, both participation and satisfaction increase since the supply is based on the preferences and needs of individuals.

Recreation need is usually expressed in terms of facilities or opportunities. For example, needs related specifically to facilities may include additional campsites or renovated restrooms in state parks. On the other hand, needs related to

opportunities include the provision of settings for people to take nature walks or experience solitude. The SCORPs examined in this study presented need in both of these ways. In some instances, need was specific to facilities (i.e. swimming pools, campsites, youth facilities, etc.); in others, it involved increasing opportunities related to specific activities (i.e. increased access for hunters, stocking streams for fishermen, etc.).

Five of the six SCORPs examined contained information on recreation need. Since the 1983 SCORP did not discuss recreation needs, except in the context of general issues, it was not included in this analysis. Twenty categories of recreation needs were created (for the present study), ranging from boating facilities to youth facilities to ski area facilities. The number of needs identified in the SCORPs ranged from six to eleven.

Recreation needs are presented in four sections. The first examines how recreation needs were determined. Needs are identified and discussed in the second section. The third section discusses barriers to recreation participation. The last section contains comments on ways to improve future SCORPs.

Determination of Need

Six of the seven SCORPs, as well as several other documents, were examined in order to identify recreation needs. The 1967 SCORP was not used since it contained the same information as the 1965 SCORP. The additional documents examined were the *Montana On-Site Recreation Survey* conducted by DFWP in 1987 and the *Montana Statewide Recreation Survey* conducted by DFWP in 1973. In approaching the issue of recreation and facility needs, the SCORPs and related documents used a variety of methods to identify a wide range of needs.

The 1965 SCORP, 1969 SCORP, and the *Montana Statewide Recreation Survey* relied on a quantitative approach to

determine recreation needs. Need was determined based on the difference between the supply of recreation facilities and the demand for those facilities. In the 1973 and 1988 SCORPs and the *Montana On-Site Recreation Survey*, recreation needs were determined through a survey of recreation users. Those surveyed indicated the needs that they thought existed. The 1978 SCORP determined need using an adequacy indicator. The indicator served as a guide to the relative magnitude of demand for given recreation facilities or opportunities. The 1983 SCORP discussed recreation needs in the context of general issues affecting certain activities and sites, but no specific needs were presented. A review of these issues is contained in section two of this report.

In addition to the variety of methods used to identify needs, the focus (whether current or projected) and the unit of measurement differed among the SCORPs. Some were concerned primarily with projected needs, while others were more interested in identifying current needs. The 1965 and 1969 SCORPs calculated facility needs based on the difference between current supplies, but they projected demand. However, in the 1973, 1978, and 1988 SCORPs, the focus was on current needs. Differences also existed among the SCORPs in terms of the unit of measurement used. For example, need was presented as number of additional square feet needed, number of additional facilities needed, percent of people indicating a need exists, or adequacy indicator figures.

Because of differences in methodology, focus, and unit of measurement, determining trends across the years is difficult. These differences make it impossible to compare specific needs across time.

Review of Needs

The seven SCORPs identified a variety of needs. Although, given the

measurement and methodological differences, specific comparisons are impossible, general trends can be examined. In order to examine general trends, it was necessary to categorize the specific needs. In all, twenty categories were created, including facility needs and opportunities requiring some type of improvements. For example, needs specific to facilities include more or improved campgrounds. Needs related to opportunities include increasing the stocking of fish or opening more areas to fishing. These categories provide an indication of general needs versus specific needs. For example, specific needs such as additional picnic tables and more acres of picnic facilities were combined under the more general category "picnic facilities." While these categories do not facilitate examination of specific needs, they can be used to examine categories of need that have existed across the years.

Table 9 shows the needs identified in each SCORP by category. This table provides an indication of the relative importance of the categories of needs over time. Some conclusions can be drawn:

1. The 1973 SCORP identified eleven areas of need, the most of any SCORP. The remaining SCORPs identified between six and eight areas of need. The comparatively large number of areas of need identified in 1973 may be attributable to the fact that survey methodology was used to determine need. Subjects responded to three open-ended questions, so a variety of responses were elicited, and more needs were therefore identified.
2. Two areas of needs, golf and playfields, were identified in the early (1965 and 1969) SCORPs, but were not identified in subsequent SCORPs.

Table 9: Summary of Facility Needs and/or Activities Requiring Facility Improvements

Facility/Activity Needs	1965 SCORP	1969 SCORP	1973 SCORP	1978 SCORP	1988 SCORP
Backpacking				x	
Bicycling					x
Boating Facilities	x	x	x		
Campground Facilities	x	x	x	x	x
Activities For Senior Citizens			x		
Fishing	x		x		x
Golf (18 Holes/25m)	x	x			
Horseback Riding				x	
Hunting					x
Parks			x		
Picnic Facilities	x	x	x	x	
Playfield -- Acres and Facilities	x	x			
Rest Stops and Facilities			x		
Ski Areas and Facilities			x	x	
Skiing -- Cross Country				x	x
Snowshoeing				x	
Swimming Facilities	x	x	x	x	x
Trees/Scenery Improvements			x		
Youth Facilities			x		

The facility/activity needs that are shaded are those which appear in four or more of the five SCORPs.

3. Two areas of needs that had previously not been identified, bicycling and hunting, were listed in the 1988 SCORP.
4. A relatively large number of need categories emerged only in the 1970s. These were backpacking, senior citizen activities, horse riding, parks, rest stops, ski areas, snowshoeing, trees/scenery improvement, and youth facilities. These general needs were not identified in the SCORPs of the 1960s or 1980s.
5. Needs related to fishing, campground facilities, and swimming facilities emerged in all three decades. This suggests either that need has continually grown and out-paced supply or that these needs have never been adequately addressed and therefore continue to emerge.
6. Boating facilities were recognized as an area of need only through 1973. Picnic facilities were identified as a need in every SCORP through 1978.
7. Five general needs were identified in three or more of the five SCORPs examined. These were boating, campground, fishing, picnic, and swimming facilities.
8. Of the twenty categories of needs, ten were mentioned in only one SCORP. This pattern suggests that the need was either adequately addressed or no longer pressing for some other reason. Reasons may include a decline in the number of individuals participating or a decline in the frequency of participation.

Barriers

In addition to examining needs, three of the five SCORPs (1965, 1969, and 1988) identified barriers to participation in outdoor recreation activities. Table 10 displays the barriers by SCORP. Some observations can be made:

1. The largest number of barriers, eight, was identified in 1988. There was one barrier identified in each of the other two SCORPs. The large number identified in 1988 may be attributable to the fact that need was determined via questionnaire, and two questions were asked specifically to determine what barriers existed. Prior to 1988, little emphasis was placed on identifying barriers. The 1965 and 1969 SCORPs identified one barrier each, and no barriers were identified in the other SCORPs.
2. Barriers can be considered within or outside of the control of the individual. Six of the eight barriers identified in 1988 were, for the most part, within the control of the individual. Barriers within the control of the individual are those subject to the influence of the individual. For example, lack of time is considered a barrier, and time is largely under the control of the individual. Other barriers in this category include lack of money, equipment, and skill. While it can be argued that these barriers are, in part, controlled externally, the individual does exert substantial influence over them. Two barriers, lack of facilities and lack of other participants, were outside of the control of the individual.

Table 10: Barriers to Participation in Outdoor Recreation Activities

Barriers	1965	1969	1973	1978	1988
Access close to travel routes	X				
Urbanization		X			
Lack of time					X
Lack of Money					X
Lack of equipment					X
Lack of facilities					X
Lack of other participants					X
Lack of child care					X
Lack of skill					X
Health					X

That is, influences outside of the individual exert more control than the individual does. It appears that many barriers are personal in nature and, to some extent, must be overcome, at least in part, by the individual.

3. Both of the barriers mentioned in 1965 and 1969, access to recreation areas close to travel routes and urbanization, were outside of the control of individuals.

Recommendation

In the course of reviewing the recreation needs identified in the five SCORPs, several ways to improve future SCORPs became apparent. The recommendations can be summarized as follows:

1. Use a consistent method for determining needs
2. Establish a specific unit of measurement for reporting needs
3. Add a section on how the need is to be addressed
4. Prioritize recreation needs
5. Base demand on participation and levels of satisfaction
6. Identify current and projected needs
7. Add a "monitoring" section
8. Identify changes in supply

Use a consistent method for determining needs

The first recommendation involves the development and implementation of a standard method for determining recreation needs. The method chosen

reflects a philosophical decision. That is, are recreation needs identified primarily by the perception of recreationists, or by a calculation of supply versus demand? Both of these approaches have been used in the past SCORPs, suggesting that this issue is not resolved. Beyond the philosophical decision are management considerations. The management decision must reflect what can be reasonably done by the agency. The development of a standardized method would allow for comparative analysis between future SCORPs.

Establish a specific unit of measurement for reporting needs

This recommendation addresses the necessity for using a consistent unit of measurement when reporting needs. Of the five SCORPs examined, needs were reported in three different ways: the number of additional square feet, the percent of survey respondents who indicated a particular need, and the amount of activity a site must bear (adequacy indicator). These differences make comparisons among the SCORPs limited due to the assumptions that must be made. Overall, the comparisons can only be considered tentative.

Add a section on how the need is to be addressed

The third recommendation concerns specifying how the identified recreation needs will be addressed. Currently, the SCORPs identify where needs exist. But if they are to serve as an useful planning tool, it is important that the needs not only be identified, but that the manner in which they are to be addressed be identified. That is not to say that every recreation need should be resolved. Instead, there should be a section addressing the actions to be taken to address the needs -- if no action is recommended and the need is to be left unresolved, it should be stated. Specifying the actions taken to resolve a need would facilitate interpreting recreation needs over time. If a need reoccurs from one SCORP to the next, it

could be determined whether its reoccurrence is a result of new demand or whether it is a result of having not been addressed.

Prioritize recreation needs

Given the state's limited resources, it is unlikely that every recreation need identified will immediately be resolved. Instead, priorities must be established to ensure that the most pressing needs are resolved first. The previous recommendation, explaining how the need was addressed, would be useful in prioritizing needs. For example, if a need has been apparent but left unaddressed across several SCORPs, resolving it might be given a higher priority than resolving a need that appeared only once.

Base demand on participation and levels of satisfaction

In the past, demand has been based solely on participation. However, the goal of recreation managers is to provide individuals with opportunities for satisfying experiences. Examining only participation does not provide information on how the experience was perceived. Just because participation increases, it does not necessarily follow that satisfaction has increased. Participation may be increasing due to increases in the population, and satisfaction may actually be declining. In order to ensure that the opportunities being provided lead to satisfying experiences, it is necessary to base demand on both participation and satisfaction.

Identify current and projected needs

This recommendation concerns the need to identify both the current and projected level of recreation need. The early SCORPs projected needs but failed to examine current needs. Later SCORPs examined only current needs. Both current and projected needs should be identified if the SCORP is to be utilized as a planning tool. It is not enough to examine needs as they presently exist

without looking to what may be needed in the future. This is especially important since the SCORPs are done only once every four or five years. Likewise, examining future needs is meaningless unless current needs are assessed.

Add a "monitoring" section

This recommendation involves reviewing the recreation needs and recommendations (to resolve those needs) identified in the previous SCORP. There is no apparent attempt in any of the SCORPs to review previous needs. Therefore, information is not available to determine if past needs were resolved or how they were resolved. Without this type of information, planning is extremely difficult. To overcome this problem, a "monitoring" section is needed. Such a section would detail what needs existed at the time of the previous SCORP, if the recommendations for resolving them were followed, and what the outcome was. This would serve to provide continuity from one SCORP to the next.

Identify changes in supply

The last recommendation involves identifying changes in the supply of recreation facilities. A vital component in examining recreation need is a detailed and up-to-date inventory of the facilities and/or opportunities present in the state. It is important that an inventory method be developed that lends itself to cost-effective and timely updating. Such an inventory would prove useful in prioritizing needs by region.

SECTION FOUR - CONCLUSIONS

The Montana by the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks prepared seven SCORPs. The SCORPs represent the state's effort to document the supply of outdoor recreation facilities, participation in outdoor recreation activities, recreation need, and issues important in Montana. While each of the individual SCORPs

may have addressed these components, they were totally independent of one another and therefore lack continuity and overall comparability. Since comparisons from year to year are nearly impossible, one of the largest potential advantages of the SCORP process -- examining trends -- is negated. The most important overall recommendation is that consistency be established within the SCORP process. Establishing consistency would help alleviate the current comparability problem.

Establishing consistency among the SCORPs would require changes at all levels of the process. For example, it would not be enough to establish a consistent presentation format for the SCORP document; this would not alleviate the comparability problem since it does not address methodology. What is needed is consistency in the definitions used, the areas examined, the methodology, and the document format. If any one of these is absent, comparability is compromised. Each section of this report contained recommendations on how to increase comparability by increasing consistency.

Aside from the recommendations that followed each section of this report (Table 11 summarizes these recommendations) and the general recommendation that consistency be established in the SCORP process, there are several other recommendations that can be made. The first is that the authors of the SCORP be clearly identified and that one person/position be responsible for carrying out the SCORP process from year to year. This would provide some continuity that would not exist if a recreation staff person completed the SCORP one year and a planner completed it the next. In examining past SCORPs, it was often difficult to determine who the authors were or who was responsible for carrying out the process. Given the various formats used and questions addressed, it seems likely that different individuals were assigned the task. The differences in the results

suggest that the individuals doing the SCORPs may have had different goals and objectives. The issue of goals and objectives leads to the next recommendation.

The Parks division needs to determine what they hope to accomplish through the SCORP process. After this determination is made goals and objectives should be formulated. For example, is the goal only to meet the requirements necessary to be eligible for LWCF funding? Or is it to carry out a process and create a document that can be used by recreation staff members for planning purposes? Establishing goals and objectives are important since they will dictate what should be done and how it is to be done. For example, depending on the goals, needs may be examined for special segments of the population or plans may be developed for achieving recommended actions. Since goals and objectives influence what is done and how, adopting goals and objectives that would remain similar across the years would facilitate consistency in the SCORP process.

Another suggestion involves the format of the document. Some of the past SCORPs contain more information than was probably needed. When this occurs, both time and money are wasted. Other SCORPs did not contain the minimal amount of information needed to make decisions. This results in a document of limited use. Developing a specific format would serve to simplify the SCORP process by specifying exactly what information is needed and how it is to be presented. In addition, a specific format would be beneficial since it would facilitate comparisons among the years.

Another recommendation concerns an item that affects all of the areas addressed in the SCORP process. Non-residents were usually not considered, although they may substantially affect participation rates, recreation need, and issues that are addressed. For example, if only resident participation is examined, it may appear

Table 11: Summary of Section Recommendations

Section 1: Recreation Participation

1. Include more detailed explanations
2. Include operational definitions
3. Use a consistent set of activities
4. Use the same interval when making projections and make a consistent number of projections
5. Use a standard methodology to make projections

Section 2: Issues and Actions

1. Add a "monitoring" section
2. Establish a specific format
3. Explain how issues were delineated

Section 3: Recreation Needs

1. Use a consistent method for determining needs
2. Establish a specific unit of measurement for reporting needs
3. Add a section on how the need is to be addressed
4. Prioritize recreation needs
5. Base demand on participation and levels of satisfaction
6. Identify current and projected needs
7. Add a "monitoring" section
8. Identify changes in supply

that the supply of facilities or opportunities is adequate. However, including non-resident participation may indicate that the current supply is less than adequate. Another example involves issues. Non-resident participation may lead to issues related to facility needs, funding, fees, access, licenses, etc. Given the number of non-residents who visit Montana, and the state's efforts in promoting tourism, non-residents are likely to significantly influence outdoor recreation in Montana in the future and

should therefore be included in the SCORP process.

Last, in terms of format, certain aids to the reader should be included. Reviewing past SCORPs was often difficult because basic items that aid the reader were neglected. For example, many SCORPs lacked table of contents and page numbers. Not only did this make reviewing the documents difficult, but it would also hinder recreation staff members from using the document.

APPENDIX A: DEFINITIONS OF SELECTED ACTIVITIES

Activity	Year	Definition
Bicycling:	1965	No definition
	1969	No definition
	1973	No distinction between types of bicycling
	1978	Included in the section on "non-motorized trail activities" Within this section bicycling is referred to as an activity that is "not necessarily dependent upon trails per se"
	1983	No definition except to indicate it was non-motorized
	1988	No definition
Boating:	1965	No definition
	1969	No definition
	1973	Included only motor boating
	1978	Included river floating, sailing, motor boating, and "other" boating
	1983	Included motorized and water skiing
	1988	No definition
Climbing:	1965	No definition
	1969	No definition
	1973 - 1988	This activity was not reported in these years
Hiking:	1965	No definition
	1969	No definition
	1973	Included only walking on trails with packs Did not include causal walking or nature walks
	1978	This activity was not reported in this year
	1983	No definition
	1988	This activity was not reported in this year
Nature Walks:	1965	No definition
	1969	No definition
	1973 - 1988	This activity was not reported in these years
Playing Games:	1965	No definition
	1969	No definition
	1973	This activity was not reported in this year
	1978	This activity was not reported in this year
	1983	Included golf, tennis, frisbee, softball, etc.
	1988	This activity was not reported in this year
Pleasure Driving:	1965	No definition
	1969	No definition
	1973	This explanation was given: "This activity is often related to other activities such as picnicking, camping, boating, hiking, fishing, sightseeing and snowmobiling in which the drive to a specific area is one of the pleasures"
	1978	This activity was not reported in this year

Pleasure Driving (continued)

	1983	No definition
	1988	This activity was not reported in this year
River Floating:	1965	No definition
	1969	No definition
	1973	Included river or stream with non-powered boat or raft
	1978	No definition
	1983	No definition except to indicate it included rafting
	1988	This activity was not reported in this year
Snow Skiing:	1965	No definition
	1969	No definition
	1973	No distinction was made between cross-country and downhill skiing
	1978	This activity was not reported in this year
	1983	No definition
	1988	This activity was not reported in this year
Snow Playing:	1965	No definition
	1969	No definition
	1973	This activity was not reported in this year
	1978	Did not include "snow playing", instead included "site-oriented winter activities" which included tobogganing, sledding, tubing, and ice skating
	1983	This activity was not reported in this year
	1988	This activity was not reported in this year
Walking:	1965	No definition
	1969	No definition
	1973	Used the term "walking for pleasure", but no definition was given
	1978	Included in the non-motorized trail activity section, but no definition was given
	1983	No definition
	1988	This activity was not reported in this year

APPENDIX B: KEY ISSUES BY SCORP

1965 SCORP

The 1965 SCORP was, Montana's first effort to document for the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act, Montana's needs and recommendations for action. There was initially a heavy emphasis on the need for facilities in Montana to meet user demand; the need for rehabilitation and development of parks, rest areas, and recreation sites, as well as land and facility acquisition. Closely related to the need for facilities was the issue of funding. Financing was described as the critical and most limiting element in initiating needed programs. Another limiting factor was the need for resource inventories and for visitor use data. Very specific recommended actions are given to obtain this information. Roles were important in 1965, as the two remaining key issues dealt with the need for coordination between all the federal, state, local, and private groups and agencies that manage recreation areas and facilities.

1967 SCORP

The 1967 SCORP was essentially an update of the 1965 SCORP, with the same issues and similar format. However, three additional issues emerged in 1967. Two of these issues dealt with the environment; the need to identify and protect Montana's unique recreational opportunities and the need for preservation, protection and enhancement of Montana's natural beauty. The third issue centered on the need for "near home" facilities to provide recreation opportunity on a day-to-day basis. Special emphasis was to be placed on fulfillment of recreation needs within urban centers.

1969 SCORP

The 1969 SCORP identified six varied issues. Three of these continue themes

previously identified: the need for role identification and coordination between recreation agencies; the need for acquisition of key portions of land for access and development; and the need to protect the quality of Montana's environment. Another issue involved the necessity for a list of rules to be considered when developing recreational lands and waters. A fifth issue dealt with changing needs, the recognition that recreationists' needs change and recreational opportunity providers must be aware of these changes. The last issue addressed the need for a uniform system to be used by all recreation management agencies for the evaluation and classification of the recreation potential of public lands.

1973 SCORP

The 1973 SCORP defined nine issues as "perspectives and observations on concerns in outdoor recreation." But the associated actions recommended to resolve these concerns are not clearly stated and in some cases do not exist. SCORP policies on specific issues are in most cases neither listed nor implied. In 1973 the subject of "roles" was again important with issues related to public and private management agencies understanding and fulfilling their respective recreation responsibilities. A third aspect, the role of the individual, also emerged. This point centers around the public, and more specifically the individual, sharing the responsibility for recreation programs and resources. In a fourth issue, land acquisition was again emphasized as a key, this time to provide access to water-oriented activities. Urban recreation was also important. An issue related to this dealt with the contribution the state can make in assisting local communities in plan recreation facilities. Recreation for the disadvantaged was emphasized for the first time, as was the impact of the out-of-state visitor on Montana's resources and the use of all-terrain vehicles. Dispersed recreation use was also considered significant.

1978 SCORP

The 1978 SCORP lists 16 "major issues to be resolved" in its introduction. However, these issues are not further described or discussed and no solutions are proposed. An abbreviated version of the 1978 SCORP, entitled *Design For Tomorrow, 1977-1990*, 1978, was also reviewed and its key issues have been incorporated in this report. In 1978, two strategic plans are presented in the SCORP, one for the fish and wildlife programs and one for state parks. The plan for state parks contains six issues which were significant in 1978. Two of these issues dealt with financing/funding, the need to search for alternate funding sources. Other repeat issues from previous SCORPs include protection of the environment, off-highway vehicle use and the need for management plans. The only new issue discussed was the importance of maintaining our state parks at a level acceptable to the public.

1983 SCORP

The 1983 SCORP clearly defined its nine recommendations and policies. The major issues were somewhat obscured by the style and format of the SCORP, which was written to be read by the public not necessarily used as a planning document. The key issues were presented within various information articles which appeared in magazines and newspapers. All of the 1983 issues are new and include such subjects as bikeways, energy, law enforcement, winter sports, wilderness, and state efforts to ease access restrictions.

1988 SCORP

The 1988 SCORP list 23 key issues to be resolved -- the largest number of any of the SCORPs. The issues were compiled largely from the results of the Montana Outdoor Recreation Needs Survey conducted in 1985. Recommended actions to resolve the issues are specific and numerous. The issues are similar to those identified in previous SCORPs. However, there are new issues as well, most notably three issues which addressed conflict between users.

APPENDIX C: KEY ACTIONS BY CATEGORY

<u>Categories</u>	<u>Issues</u>	<u>Actions</u>
Financing/Funding	1965#2 - Financing	Review each project for funding source Counties should use matching funds Cities should use matching funds
	1978#2 - Regional Management Plans	Determine purpose of user fees Recommend techniques to increase fee charges Examine viability of State Park Foundation Determine fair cost burden to benefit ratio
	1978#5 - Admin. of LWCF Grants	Update data base for prospective projects Assure recreation values in local plans Assure planning level based on size of community Assure technical assistance for local plans Cooperate with Association of Counties and Montana Department of Community Affairs Support maximum congressional funding Eliminate administrative overhead costs
	1988#1 - Funding	Bring existing sites up to standards Provide additional facilities beginning 1992 Other specific actions
	1988#7 - Economics	Determine which activities need economic evaluation Collect needed data through University system Make findings available to public Conduct snowmobiling impact study Conduct State Park System impact study
	1988#9 - User Fees	Make collection of user fees at site more efficient Use user fees to implement facility improvements Raise cabin site fees to fair market value Require users to pay fair share Consider excise tax on equipment Educate public to gain support for user-pay system Consider public land use pass Return user fees to generated site Close little used facilities Create Council on Recreation Evaluate new allocation formula for park earned revenue Develop alternatives for revising park user fee policies

Roles in Recreation/ Coordination	1965#3 -	Coordination with Other Groups or Agencies	Federal agencies retain control of areas State provides substantial share of camping on state land Counties develop picnic/camping areas Cities should develop near/in city limits Private provide opportunities based on fair return on dollar
	1965#5 -	Role of Private Enterprise	Visitors and planners be made aware of private sector contributions
	1969#6 -	Role of Government	Montana provides recreation opportunities consistent with funds Federal agencies provide facilities in relation to nationwide-based demand State and federal government provide weekend/vacation facilities Local government provide community facilities
	1973#6 -	Private Sector Recreation	State determines demand for private sector services
	1973#7 -	Role of Local Community	Clarify responsibility and need for close-to-home facilities Devise funding combinations where state/local lines unclear
	1973#9 -	Role of Individual	None specified
	1988#6 -	Agency Roles	Public agencies should review planning documents Hold annual issue-oriented conference Establish interagency council Set standards for visitor preferences Define intra/inter agency responsibilities Plan to integrate SCORP efforts
Liability/ Regulation/ Enforcement	1983#7 -	Recreation and Park Law Enforcement	Increase public awareness Encourage personal precautions Share enforcement efforts Train ex officios Recruit wardens with recreation background Evaluate conservation officer concept Address law enforcement in park planning plan Determine rule/law noncompliance trends
	1988#16 -	Liability Insurance	Protect providers from lawsuits Establish disincentives for frivolous suits Providers responsible to users Establish safety/hazard standards Research setting a legal limit to attorney fees

	1988#22 - Litter/ Garbage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Make receptacles more visible Seek help from local service groups Increase penalties for littering Consider litter crime stopper program Emphasize pack-in, pack-out Promote biodegradable, deposit-required packaging Implement bottle/can tax Increase public awareness Encourage state participation in national programs
	1988#23 - Vandalism/ Misuse/ Abuse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote public awareness Support crime stopper programs Develop deterrent penalties Install vandal-resistant facilities Consider agency ability to deter vandalism when developing sites Encourage state participation in national programs
Access	1983#1 - Recreation Access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognize landowners' contribution to recreation during decision making Acquire access across private land Assist landowners in managing guests Protect landowners' rights Educate users of checkerboard land ownership and restrictions
	1988#8 - Visitor Access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify public lands with recreation potential Recognize use of state school trust lands Seek solutions to maintenance needs on school trust lands Seek access through private land Reflect ease or difficulty of access in management objectives Fund management of access sites where heavy use occurs
	1988#19 - Stream Access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schedule coordinating meetings Involve groups on specific river management issues Disseminate educational information DFWP administer the state stream access law
Conflict	1988#2 - River Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use Pacific NW rivers study as basis for management decisions Develop joint management plans Provide information about river management techniques Coordinate high-use navigable river/stream management information Emphasize flow reservation and habitat protection

	1988#5 - Recreationist/ Landowner	Coordinate with private landowners Allow access considering landowner objections Reimburse landowner losses Reduce landowner liability Develop landowner incentive program "More for Montana" booster system Coordinate with public agencies: encourage public land signs encourage private land litter clean-up instill mutual respect encourage user self-policing expand information start landowner/public relations program Decentralize snowmobile program
	1988#13 - Mechanized vs Non-Mech.	Designate areas as to motor vehicle use Set seasonal vehicle limits Consider citizens task force to propose management objectives Find new funding sources Encourage citizen reporting of violations Promote educational programs Establish an ORV operators' course Pursue joint development of regulations Provide landowner incentives to provide for mechanized recreation
Acquisition	1969#4 - Acquisition	Use priority list when considering acquisitions
	1973#2 - Water- Oriented Rec.	None specified
Winter Sports	1983#3 - Cross- Country Skiing	Maintain existing facilities on public lands Consider proposals for private development/management on public lands
	1983#5 - Downhill Skiing	Have state and federal agencies impose minimum of regulation Impose regulations only for safety and environmental protection Allow prices to be established by free enterprise competition
	1983#8 - Montana Snowmobile Program	Commit 80% of parks' snowmobile funds to ongoing projects Use 20% for new projects and administration
	1988#20 - Cross- Country Skiing	Consider excise tax on equipment Encourage cross-country ski clubs Identify need for a park and ski program Support legislation for cross-country ski grant- in-aid program

			Provide avalanche hazard warning program Designate areas closed to vehicles as cross-country ski areas Coordinate cross-country ski trail development with other trail systems Encourage use of public golf courses for cross-country skiing Use public funded programs to complement private provider efforts
Natural Environment/ Environmental Quality	1967#1 -	Quality Aspects and Aesthetic Values	None specified
	1967#3 -	Montana Unique Opportunities	None specified
	1969#1 -	Environmental Quality	State is responsible for maintaining environmental quality LWCF fund proposals should contain environmental considerations
	1978#6 -	Protection of Cultural, Scientific and Rec. Resources	Enhance land acquisition policy Enhance site management planning Provide the Park program with direction
	1988#14 -	Water Quality	Prevent water quality problems through educational programs Maintain present agency water quality controls Encourage interagency and public and private communication Promote proper staffing and budgeting Create water quality incentives Provide adequate enforcement Consider instream flow to maintain water quality
Off-Highway/Bikes	1973#3 -	All-Terrain Vehicles	Recreation agencies manage all terrain vehicles and users
	1978#4 -	Off-Highway Vehicle Mgt.	Increase coordination/cooperation with agencies Enhance coordination/cooperation with user groups Encourage communities to consider DHV use in planning Seek legislation clarifying DHV management responsibilities Seek legislation to provide adequate funding Encourage OHV industry to cooperate with agencies

	1983#2 - Bikeways	<p>Involve citizens when planning bikeway construction</p> <p>Advise public of positive aspects of bike use</p> <p>Encourage bicycle use for transportation</p>
	1988#11 - Bicycling	<p>Determine direction to proceed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - consider non-organized biking public - determine perceived biking needs - explore new funding sources - establish state bike coordinator position - establish state council of users
Tourism	1965#4 - Need for Visitor Use/ Activity Data	<p>Highway Commission undertake studies</p> <p>University of Montana conduct site user and commercial travel surveys and refine development standards</p> <p>DFWP complete state park visitor plan</p> <p>Revise 1965 SCORP within one year</p> <p>Continue to request updated data</p>
	1973#5 - Non-Resident Recreation	<p>Institute interagency planning system</p> <p>Provide information to visitors</p>
	1988#3 - Tourism	<p>Document tourist expectations</p> <p>Create unique and attractive Montana image</p> <p>Encourage coordination of information to steer tourists to local attractions</p> <p>Establish travel corridor plan</p> <p>Sign all major sites on highways</p> <p>Standardize site designations between agencies</p> <p>Establish tourist information centers</p> <p>Provide security/allow overnight stops at highway rest areas</p> <p>Develop interagency plan to address above alternatives</p> <p>Participate in Research Projects Steering Committee</p> <p>Cooperate in publishing <u>Montana State Parks</u> gift book for state centennial</p> <p>Cooperate with plan for system of highway signs</p>
Use/Potential-Use	1969#5 - Potential-Use of Public Lands	<p>Management agencies continue inventory, categorization and evaluation of public lands resources for potential recreation use</p>
	1973#1 - Dispersed Recreation Use	<p>Reevaluate management responsibilities</p> <p>Revise planning concepts in light of changing conditions</p> <p>Determine ratio between camp units and population</p> <p>Determine strategic location of key developments</p> <p>Plan for key sanitary stations</p>

Wilderness	1983#9 - Montana Wilderness Synopsis	<p>Preserve classified wilderness in present status and condition</p> <p>Do not compromise lands with wilderness potential</p> <p>Evaluate lands with wilderness potential</p> <p>Seek land acquisition where private inholdings exist in wilderness</p>
	1988#12 - Wilderness	<p>Proceed with wilderness allocation</p> <p>Use joint decision making in areas of overlapping jurisdiction</p> <p>Fish and wildlife management should remain state responsibility except in national parks</p> <p>Manage state inholdings within wilderness areas in cooperation with federal agency</p>
Disadvantaged	1973#4 - Recreation Disadvantaged	<p>Agencies determine what is needed to for the enhance use by disadvantaged</p> <p>Local agencies plan on greater use by disadvantaged due to accessibility</p> <p>Citizens should have concern for extending recreation to the developmentally different</p>
	1988#18 - Disabled Issues	<p>Make new construction wheelchair-accessible</p> <p>Recognize "disabled" as more than wheelchair-confined</p> <p>Determine range of handicapped needs</p> <p>Examine feasibility of citizen's advisory board on disabled needs</p> <p>Consider hunting from vehicles for disabled hunters</p> <p>Encourage local/county programs to address handicapped needs</p> <p>Determine issues to guide future recreation programs and development</p>
Energy	1983#4 - Destination	<p>Businesses should promote vacationing destination packages</p> <p>Agencies should assist in promotion</p>
	1983#6 - Energy and Recreation	<p>Government agencies set the example of fuel conservation</p> <p>Citizens decide activities they want to participate in</p> <p>Make fuel-consumption statistics available to public</p>
Maintenance	1978#1 - Maintenance of State	<p>Maintain funding/staffing levels</p> <p>Avoid expansion unless funding available</p> <p>Experiment with techniques:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to improve utilization of personnel - to reduce support staff to on-site personnel ratios

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to make park system more economically self-sufficient - to identify prospective required maintenance
	1988#15 - Highway Maintenance	<p>Incorporate needs into highway construction/maintenance standards</p> <p>Identify roads/highways for upgrade which are crucial for recreation</p> <p>Generate road maintenance revenue by increasing fuel tax only as last resort</p> <p>Encourage recreation corridors</p> <p>Increase highway rest area quality and numbers</p> <p>Establish Tourist Information Centers</p> <p>Allow overnight stops at on-site managed locations</p> <p>Consider placing rest areas under State Park System</p> <p>Before placing new recreation facilities, consider new road construction/maintenance</p> <p>Create road designation for unique roads</p>
General Facilities	1965#1 - Lack of Facilities	<p>Regarding development give priority to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - rehabilitation of existing facilities - development of urban parks and playing fields - development of facilities associated with the state's travel system - development of facilities associated with water-based activities <p>Regarding fishing access sites give priority to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - lands for local/county parks and playing fields - lands for new state parks to round out present State ownership - lands for providing access to water - lands to overcome access problem - lands to develop highway rest areas and the wayside program
	1967#2 - Near-to-Home Facilities	None specified
	1969#2 - Recreational Development Plan	<p>Use the provided list of priorities in project planning (Appendix B)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - consider design capacities - seek development of urban parks and play fields - develop facilities associated with state's travel system - emphasize water-based activities - develop fishing access sites - develop facilities associated with Montana's Recreational Waterway System

		- develop recreation areas on federal lands
	1978#3 - Regional Management	<p>Establish minimum standards for Regional Plans</p> <p>Explore alternatives of program planning and zero-base budgeting</p> <p>Clarify roles and policies of levels of government</p> <p>Greater freedom in planning</p> <p>Establish task force</p> <p>Establish program for land acquisition</p> <p>Inventory lakes and rivers to establish recreation values</p> <p>Explore alternate sources of funding</p> <p>Try to gain less than fee simple access rights</p> <p>Inform public on safe water use</p> <p>Enforce bank-side use of rivers</p> <p>Continue cooperation in water management</p> <p>Prepare, implement and evaluate river and lake management plans</p> <p>Determine sites needing management plans</p> <p>Prepare plans to address site goals</p> <p>Evaluate effectiveness of warden force</p> <p>Evaluate park regulations</p> <p>Provide for Parks Program law enforcement</p> <p>Increase ex officio law enforcement training</p> <p>Retain temporary law enforcement offices</p>
Wildlife	1988#10 - Wildlife	<p>Regarding habitat protection:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - purchase tracts to be managed for wildlife - consider wildlife needs in management decisions - encourage agricultural community to consider wildlife needs - apply direct habitat management to specific areas of concentration - increase public awareness - establish joint public/interagency consensus on habitat priority <p>Regarding grizzly management:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - delist grizzly where recovery goals met - attain population levels to provide for recovery - upgrade management information base - reduce bear-people conflicts - provide assistance to land managers - support grizzly studies - upgrade enforcement
Cultural	1988#21 - Cultural Resources	<p>Actively pursue preservation</p> <p>Preclude use on fragile cultural lands</p> <p>Historic Preservation Officer should make preservation decisions</p>

		<p>Make preservation first management alternative</p> <p>Instill respect for preservation</p> <p>Have a file of cultural resources</p> <p>Historic Preservation Office is central for all agencies</p>
Public Involvement	1988#17 - Management Decision Making	<p>Increase public participation in decision making</p> <p>Strengthen interagency coordination</p> <p>Encourage agencies to return earned revenue to benefit sites and programs</p> <p>Establish interagency council</p>
Urban Recreation	1973#8 - Urban Recreation	<p>State will encourage local community planning efforts</p> <p>Establish funding policy</p> <p>Establish community recreation plans</p>
Crowding	1988#4 - Overuse/ Crowding	<p>Do not expand until existing sites produce acceptable experiences</p> <p>Increase quality of experience</p> <p>During peak seasons make alternative sites and areas known to users</p> <p>Disperse users into "shoulder seasons"</p> <p>Develop reservation systems to control crowding</p> <p>Provide public education to reduce conflict</p> <p>Use screening to reduce perception of crowding</p> <p>Provide both densely spaced and more spacious camping opportunities</p> <p>Increase number of park systems sites</p> <p>Conduct 1987/88 on-site survey of visitor preference</p>
Changing Needs	1969#3 - Changing Needs	<p>Evaluate factors affecting demand when planning</p>

II. IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

1. Introduction

Information provided by the trend analysis study will prove valuable as the planning process for the 1998 SCORP is initiated. Outdoor recreation activity participation inclinations, along with identified trends in facility/activity needs and issues provide a more focused picture of what the 1998 SCORP should address. Unlike previous SCORPS, which basically provided a vignette of outdoor recreation opportunities, facilities and related issues for a specific point in time, the 1998 SCORP, and all successive SCORPS, will focus on a smaller, more manageable number of key issues and concerns. A detailed framework for addressing those key issues will also be incorporated into the SCORP process.

The intent is to provide a functional, dynamic planning process that identifies issues, provides guidelines for addressing them, and monitors progress, as outlined on pages 46 to 50 in the trend analysis report.

Intensive public involvement will be a much higher priority, as well as input and coordination with other state, federal, and local government agencies.

2. Focus Areas

Based on a broad interpretation of the results of the recreation activity participation, facility/activity needs, issue analysis, and the local government recreation facility/needs inventory, the proposed focus areas for the 1998 SCORP will include the following:

- A. Development of an Interagency Comprehensive Statewide Trails Plan
- B. Enhancement of park related day use/picnicking recreational opportunities, including overnight camping opportunities within the Montana State Park System.
- C. Improvement of the process by which LWCF revenue is allocated for local and state projects.

The trend analysis of recreation participation indicated that five activities displayed relative stability over a ten year period, those being fishing, horseback riding, picnicking, cross country skiing, and snowmobiling. Picnicking also was consistently the most participated in activity. Two activities, hunting and bicycling, showed modest increases. Downhill skiing

participation displayed a dramatic increase over the past ten years.

All of the aforementioned activities can be categorized into one of the three proposed 1998 SCORP focus areas. Trail related activities include cross country skiing, snowmobiling, horseback riding, and bicycling. Picnicking is a major pastime of public park users, and local, county, and state parks offer a diversity of opportunity for this activity. However, due to financial instability within most local and state government agencies, the quality of the associated recreational experience may be in jeopardy. Since there is an increasingly important link developing between state parks and Montana's fast growing tourism industry, and state parks are major providers of picnicking and camping opportunities, the 1998 SCORP will focus on possible avenues of enhancing these activities in state parks.

Along with recreational activity participation, trends in facility needs, and/or activities requiring facility improvements were investigated. Campground facilities, picnic facilities, and swimming facilities emerged as identified needs over the course of the study.

Issue trends were also investigated, with financing, roles in recreation coordination, the environment, and tourism consistently mentioned. The issues and facility need trends provide a basis for each of the focus areas. The funding/financing of recreation facilities, programs and opportunities particularly relates to LWCF enhancement and improvement, since the primary purpose of the LWCF program is to provide local communities with matching federal funds for this purpose. Also, the LWCF program remains one of the primary means by which local community recreation projects are funded throughout the State.

Further justification for the proposed focus areas is outlined in a research report published in October, 1991 by the Institute for Tourism and Recreation Research on Montana resident travel. Table 1 summarizes the activity participation patterns of respondents to a statewide telephone survey conducted in 1989.

The National Park Service, in the 1991 Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Programs Annual Report strongly endorses the development of comprehensive statewide trails plan as integral components of the future National Trails System plan. It is also recommended that trails planning be incorporated into SCORP.

The incorporation of a statewide trails plan into the 1998 SCORP process is perhaps the most significant focus area, in that the development of trails and trail systems encompasses and enhances a wide variety of outdoor recreation activities, including all of

the Travel/Nature-Based Activities listed in table 1. Recreational access, natural resource interpretation and education, tourism, and recreation and tourism related industries will all benefit from the development of a state trails plan.

Table 1. Individual Adult Participation Rates for Selected Recreational Activities, by Tourism County of Residence, in Percent, as Reported in The Montana Resident Pleasure Travel Study, Characteristics and Economic Impacts, 1989-1990.

Activity	Residence						
	Glacier n = 986	Gold West n = 571	Charlie Russell n = 645	Yellowstone n = 381	Missouri River n = 200	Custer n = 749	State n = 3,533
<u>Travel/Nature-Based Activities</u>							
Backpacking	20	18	11	26	9	13	17
Bicycling	43	13	32	47	31	39	39
Camping	56	56	46	57	39	50	52
Horseback Riding	17	20	22	28	22	24	21
Hunting	43	44	40	45	50	41	43
Jogging	27	30	26	29	25	29	28
Nature Study	26	27	23	31	15	25	25
Off-road 4WD	25	33	27	29	33	30	28
Motorcycling or ATV	17	22	18	15	23	19	18
Picnicking	76	76	67	75	69	73	73
Day Hiking	68	67	57	71	54	58	63
<u>Water-Based Activities</u>							
Canoeing	14	13	8	14	6	8	11
Fishing	58	62	56	62	55	59	59
Motorboating	32	40	29	24	37	27	31
Rafting	25	18	11	29	5	13	18
Pool	45	55	43	50	48	51	48
Swimming							
Lake/Stream Swimming	54	51	36	38	44	40	44
Waterskiing	19	25	16	16	23	17	19
<u>Snow-Based Activities</u>							
X-Country Skiing	23	20	11	29	4	14	18
Alpine Skiing	24	32	20	36	17	21	25
Ice Skating	14	17	11	19	24	14	15
Snowmobiling	12	20	15	18	20	16	16

3. Focus Area One - Montana Statewide Trails Plan.

Relationship to the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP):

The Montana Statewide Trails Plan (STP) will be an element of the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) program.

The Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965 (LWCF), which directs the planning and development of the SCORP, as amended, explicitly requires each SCORP to include the following:

- A. the name of the state agency that will have the authority to represent and act for the State in dealing with the Secretary of Interior for purposes of the LWCF act, as amended;
- B. an evaluation of the demand for and supply of outdoor recreation resources and facilities in the State;
- C. a program for implementation of the plan;
- D. certification by the Governor that ample opportunity for public participation has taken place in plan development; and
- E. other necessary information as determined by the Secretary (see Chapter 630.1 in the LWCF Grants Manual for more detailed information).

The SCORP requirements listed under criteria B, C, and D will be partially fulfilled through the formation of a Montana State Trails Advisory Committee (STAC).

STAC formation began in the fall of 1992, with a solicitation of nominations from interested individuals or groups. Eight representatives and alternates were then selected from the list of nominees after a detailed selection process. A list of STAC representatives and alternates is provided in appendix E.

The development of the STP will consist of the following basic components:

- A. Policy Document, providing background information and data, and establishing state policies on trails.
- B. Process Document, describing how the plan was developed.
- C. Action Document, presenting the findings, goals, objectives, and actions of the plan.

- D. Technical Assistance Manual, providing technical information and guidance on trail projects.

Proposed Definitions:

Throughout the planning process, a trail shall be defined as...

a path, route, way, right of way, or corridor posted, signed, or designated as open for travel or passage by the general public but not normally designated as open for the transportation of commercial goods or services.

A trail is an opportunity to experience solitude or companionship, recreation, or challenge; an opportunity for the appreciation of nature; a means of achieving renewal of body, mind, and spirit.

"Multiple use trail" is a trail designated for two or more recreational uses (e.g. mountain bikes, OHVs, and hiking).

Proposed Vision Statement:

The vision statement will serve to identify the desired outcome of the planning process. The proposed vision statement is:

"A significant network of identified trails, for all ability levels, offering a diversity of opportunities, from very primitive to developed, that are easily accessible to the user. The trails will be managed to conserve and protect existing natural and cultural resources, for multiple use where publicly acceptable, and in a manner that will enhance the image of trail related recreation and recreationists."

A preliminary task of the STAC will be to finalize a tentative vision statement and then evaluate public support for the proposed statement, with the opportunity to make revisions if necessary. The STAC will determine the proposed vision and make any necessary revisions by January of 1993.

Findings:

A list of significant findings concerning trail related recreation will be developed by the STAC through a combination of public meetings, mailed or telephone survey questionnaires, and/or focus and nominal group techniques. The findings will be statements relating to

the current state of trail related recreational opportunities in Montana, current management responsibilities, past planning efforts, funding for trail management, existing and needed trail maintenance efforts, user conflicts, information and educational needs, and desired recreational and managerial settings. Additional findings will be added based on the information obtained by the STAC through associated surveys and/or public meetings.

Goals:

Goals for the STP will be developed based on the findings identified by the STAC. Objectives will then be developed for each identified goal. Goals and objectives will be prioritized based on STAC findings and recommendations.

A preliminary goal of the planning process is the identification of trail related recreational opportunities in Montana through by the completion of a state-wide comprehensive trails inventory, beginning in September of 1993.

Objective: Complete by April of 1994, an inventory and listing of formal trails in Montana, existing informal trails, and potential trails, located on federal, state, and local government lands. The trails will be categorized by managing agency, level of development, level of environmental and social impact, type and level of use, existing or potential user conflicts, and the presence of critical resources. Also included will be trail length by mile, and trail location in the state.

A considerable portion of the above information may be currently available from respective managing agencies.

An assessment of current public participation in trail activities, including investigation of trail related recreational behavior patterns, and opinions on trail issues will be conducted beginning in March of 1993.

Objective: Complete by January of 1994, a mail survey of Montana citizens on participation in trail related activities, behavior patterns, preferences, and opinions toward trail issues.

Private Lands, Private Concerns:

Partnerships will have to be formed between the various federal, state, and local government agencies, user groups, and private landowners in order to understand each others concerns and objectives.

Poor communication and misunderstanding is often the main obstacles to establishing needed trails on or adjacent to private lands. It is important to meet early and often in the development of the plan to provide information on similar projects that were successful in other states, and to assure a high level of private landowner participation in the planning process. Some of the methods that have proven successful in minimizing impact on private land include land exchanges, purchase of an easement, gifts or donations of land, and "cornering" in which a trail goes across the smallest possible area, usually a corner of a given property.

A separate inventory of trails on private lands, similar to the inventory of trails on public land, will be necessary in order to evaluate and identify the full spectrum of trail related recreational opportunities available in Montana. This inventory will be conducted concurrently with the public inventory.

Objective: Complete by of January of 1994, an inventory and listing of trails on private land, using a format similar to that described in the public lands inventory objective.

Brief History of Recreational Trail Use in Montana:

Trail related recreation use in Montana has been a popular activity for many years. However, growing public interest in recreational trails and the many uses surrounding them has only been recognized for the past several decades. It will be necessary to conduct a study to accurately profile trail use and trail recreationists in Montana. This information currently exists in various forms, but is not comprehensive in nature and most likely outdated. It is vital for development of a plan that background information and data be provided so that adequate policy measures can be proposed and actions implemented.

To address this issue a second preliminary goal of the STAC will be the development of a literature review of past and current trail management policies and associated research.

Objective: Complete literature review of past and current management actions, policies, and related research associated with trails in the state of Montana from 1960 to the present, by September of 1994.

Identification of Key Issues and Action Statements:

In order to further identify and assess public opinion on potential key issues related to trails, a series of public open house meetings and focus group sessions will be conducted beginning in January of 1995.

The STAC will develop a list of key issues based on the findings, identified goals, stated objectives, information from surveys and public meetings, the literature review, and the trails inventory by March of 1996.

Action statements will be developed for each identified key issue. Each action statement will include the following:

- a statement of the problem
- a solution statement
- listing of planning participants
- time frame to address the problem
- recommended and alternative strategies

The action statements will be completed by July of 1997.

The list of findings and associated action statements will constitute the greater part of the STP.

Reporting of Results:

A draft final report will be developed by September of 1997. The draft plan will be circulated for public review and comment for at least 60 days. The final report will be published as part of the 1998 SCORP.

Proposed Planning Schedule Summary:

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| April 15, 1992 | - formation of STAC (completed) |
| June 27, 1992 | - first STAC meeting |
| January, 1993 | - finalize vision statement |
| March, 1993 | - begin mail survey on trail issues/participation, etc. |
| September, 1993 | - begin public/private trails inventory |
| January, 1994 | - completion of report on mail survey findings |
| April, 1994 | - completion of inventory report on public and private lands |

- May, 1994 - begin literature review project
- September, 1994 - completion of literature review
- January, 1995 - begin a series of public open house meeting and focus group sessions to further identify issues.
- March, 1996 - key issues finalized
- July, 1997 - development of action statements
- September, 1997 - draft final report completed and circulated for public review and comment
- January, 1998 - final report published

4. Focus Area Two - Enhancement of day use/picnicking opportunities, including overnight camping in the Montana State Park System.

The primary goal of this focus area will be to enhance day use and picnicking opportunities available at local and state managed parks, and overnight camping opportunities within units of the Montana State Park System. Montana's parks are major providers of outdoor recreational opportunities, and play an ever increasing role in Montana's fast growing tourism industry.

Due to the increase in use experienced over the past decade, coupled with increasingly inadequate maintenance and operations revenue, many park resources have deteriorated to unacceptable conditions. As a result of this dilemma, the quality of the recreational experience of visitors to many local and state parks has been diminished. This in turn negatively effects local and regional tourism industries.

Montana State Parks

The Montana State Park System provides outstanding opportunities for day use activities, and offers a variety of overnight camping experiences.

Due to dramatic increases in visitation over the past ten years and progressively inadequate maintenance and operations budgets, significant natural, historical and cultural resources and recreational opportunities are threatened.

Appendix D, The State Park Futures Committee Report to the Governor and the 52nd Legislature provides a detailed history and background of the problems now facing the state park system.

Specific detailed actions and objectives to address this problem are also outlined.

In the Futures Committee Report various methods of raising revenue for state parks are discussed. In order to obtain an accurate measurement of public opinion concerning these proposed funding sources, the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks will conduct a series of public surveys and focus group sessions, focusing on ways to enhance state park funding. The surveys and focus group sessions are components of several special studies dealing with the enhancement of the tourism potential for state parks, marketing of state park resources, and a detailed evaluation of public attitude concerning state park system funding, management, and recreational use.

1992 State Parks Visitor Survey

The evaluation of public attitude special study entails a statewide combination on-site/mailed/telephone survey. The 1992 Montana State Parks Visitor Survey includes questions about needed and/or desired facilities, educational programs, user fee pricing, activity participation, and proposed long term funding sources.

Survey Schedule:

1. survey specification and questionnaire development 1/92-6/92
(completed)
2. telephone interviews conducted, surveys mailed to park
passport holders, on-site interviews conducted at selected
state parks 6/92 - 8/92 (in progress)
3. analysis of data 8/92 - 9/92
4. development of final report, to be submitted for public
review, and to the new Governor and the 1993 Legislature
11/92 - 12/92

The results of this study will help provide a more accurate and up-to-date understanding of how Montanan's would like their state park funded and managed. Further analysis of the survey data will most likely take place as specific issues, such as priorities for additional facilities and services, are addressed.

Priorities and issue identification concerning day use and camping opportunities, and the opportunity for continuing public involvement in the planning process, will commence in June of 1993, after the next regular legislative session.

Tourism and Marketing Enhancement Plan for Flathead Lake, Lewis and Clark Caverns, and Makoshika State Parks.

Introduction:

Montana's State Parks are increasingly a component of the state's natural resource based tourism industry--an industry in 1990 that added over \$750 million in retail sales to the state. While many of the existing state parks were rightly established to preserve and protect Montana's natural and cultural heritage, they can also play a more important role in revitalizing the economies of nearby communities that serve non-residents as they visit the state. Careful and sensitive promotion of these parks combined with an appropriate management system can influence non-residents to stay longer, spend more money, and thereby increase opportunities for employment and income for Montanans.

The overall goal of this study is to develop a model tourism enhancement plan for three state parks. The plan for each park will provide a framework for tourism enhancement and, if necessary, suggestions on addressing tourism related problems. The preservation and conservation of the unique natural, cultural, historic and recreational resources found within each area will be a top priority. The plan will indicate how park visitor experiences can be enhanced, and how each area can be marketed within the tourism resources of the local region.

The Parks:

Makoshika State Park:

Makoshika State Park, the largest in the Montana State Park System, encompasses 8,834 acres of semi-forested badlands in Dawson County just south of the city of Glendive. The park is noted for its beautiful scenery, watchable wildlife opportunities, and paleontological resources, which include several recent fossil discoveries of international significance. Recreational opportunities include self-guided nature trails, hiking, camping, picnicking, a shooting range, and scenic drives. A new visitor and interpretive center is planned for the park, with construction to begin in 1993. The park has been identified in the 1989 Montana State Parks System Plan as a Level I or high priority park in terms of resource and/or recreational appeal, potential for future expansion and improvements, and as a potential destination area.

Lewis & Clark Caverns State Park:

Lewis & Clark Caverns State Park, the first and best-known Montana state park, offers park visitors the unique experience of touring some of the most highly decorated limestone caverns in

the Northwest. Guides lead groups of visitors on walking tours from May 1st - September 30th. The caverns also provide a unique opportunity to view the rare western big-eared bat. Additional recreational opportunities include camping, picnicking, fishing in the Jefferson River, and hiking. The 2,735 acre park is classified as a level I park in the Montana State Parks System Plan.

Flathead Lake State Park

Flathead Lake State Park consists of six sperate units around the shore of the two hundred square mile Flathead Lake in northwestern Montana. The Finley Point, Yellow Bay, and Wayfarers units are found on the east shore, and the West Shore, Elmo and Big Arm units located on the west.

The park is noted for the variety of water-oriented recreational opportunities available, including boating, swimming, fishing, hiking, and camping, and outstanding views of mountain scenery.

Flathead Lake State Park is one of the most heavily visited parks in the System, and is classified as a level I park within the System Plan.

Methods:

The study encompasses two parts (A and B).

Part A: Assessment of the Situation

This component consists of three activities:

(1) Identification of Visitor Needs and Wants. The objective of this activity is to enhance our understanding of the non-residents who currently visit each of the parks. Specifically, this activity will identify social-demographic characteristics, recreation experience expectations and activity patterns, levels of satisfaction and spending habits. This information will be collected from an on-site survey of visitors to begin approximately August 1, 1991 and conclude by June 30, 1992. A minimum of 200 completed surveys will be collected from each park. Parks Division personnel will administer the survey.
(completed)

(2) Identification of Local Concerns. In this activity, a focus or nominal group process will be held in each of the three local area to identify resident perception of opportunities and barriers. The meetings will be used to also assess local support of the tourism enhancement concept. One meeting will be held in

each of the local areas by January 31, 1992. (completed)

(3) Assessment of Local Natural Resource Based Recreation Opportunities. This activity involves an inventory of private and publicly managed areas that offer natural resource based recreation opportunities. This inventory will allow development of brochures and other promotional material attractive to visitors who wish to visit other areas in the local region. This activity will be completed by January 31, 1992. (completed)

Part B: Evaluation and Recommendations

This component consists of four activities:

(1) Inventory and evaluation of park attributes. The goal of this activity is to develop a data base of park facilities, sites attributes and recreational opportunities. The inventory will be placed into a computerized data base. Completion date is expected by August 31, 1992.

(2) Identification of Facilities/Services Needing Upgrading. This activity will address the question "What is limiting the park from reaching its full potential for tourism?" Addressing this question involves an inventory and evaluation of local public facilities (such as transportation, information) and services (churches, banks, etc.) that exist and that may need improvement in order to support an increased level of tourism. This activity will be completed by August 31, 1992.

(3) Estimation of Economic Impacts. In this activity, the economic consequences of an increased level of non-resident activity will be estimated using data collected in Part A and standard input-output modeling. This will be completed by August 31, 1992.

(4) Report of Findings. The results in all activities will be presented in a written report to be submitted by September 30, 1992. The report will summarize the findings in both parts, suggest improvements in both the parks and local areas, and suggest the most appropriate promotional program. Funding sources and time frames will be included.

State Park Attribute Inventory

A comprehensive inventory of 61 state park sites was conducted during the summer of 1991. The inventory consisted of on-site inspections using a standard attribute and inventory form, as presented in appendix G. Inventory attributes included facility types such as picnic tables, roads, trails, campsites, and park buildings. A summary of the inventory findings is presented in

appendix G. The complete report, including each individual site report, is on file at the Parks Division office in Helena (1420 E. 6th Avenue, Helena, MT 59620).

Local Parks

The enhancement of city, town, and county parks, and related recreational opportunities will be accomplished by the addition of several new criteria for evaluating Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Project Proposals concerning local parks and associated recreational facilities. This is outlined in the next focus area, specifically in sections VI, VII, and VIII of the Land and Water Conservation Fund Open Project Selection Process.

5. Focus Area Three - Enhancement of Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Open Project Selection Process (OPSP) for local and state projects.

Introduction:

The following is taken from The Land and Water Conservation Fund: A Condensed Story, written by Mary Ellen McDonald, Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks.

In 1964 the President and Congress enacted one of the most successful and far reaching pieces of conservation and recreation legislation in America's history. Over its first quarter of a century, the Land and Water Conservation Fund has provided over \$7.3 billion to acquire new federal lands and to provide grants to state and local governments.

The LWCF encouraged a full partnership between national, state, and local governments in planning, funding and providing nationwide recreation opportunities.

The LWCF Act requires that all property acquired or developed with LWCF assistance be maintained perpetually in public recreation use. This insures that tens of thousands of outdoor recreation sites at every level of government and in every state are recognized and continuing legacies that must remain available not just today, but to future generations of Americans.

In Montana, more than 750 projects statewide representing a \$60 million investment of federal, state, and local dollars have been completed through this 50/50 match program. Almost all counties, cities and towns in Montana have been successful in obtaining financial assistance through this grant program.

The Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks was designated the state agency responsible for this program in 1965 and the

Parks Division was assigned the responsibility of its administration.

Although the LWCF allocation to Montana has been cut back drastically by the federal government in recent years, enthusiasm and support for the program continues, evidenced by the fact that local government requests for dollars exceed the amount of available allocation. There are two separate project rating systems for the open project selection process: 1) Locally Sponsored Land and Water Conservation Fund Project Selection Process, and 2) State Sponsored Land and Water Conservation Fund Project Selection Process.

LOCALLY SPONSORED LAND & WATER CONSERVATION FUND OPEN PROJECT SELECTION PROCESS (Revised August, 1992)

In order to allocate Land & Water Conservation Fund dollars equitably, the project rating system has been revised to consider a variety of pertinent factors.

THE FACTORS CONSIDERED

I. PRELIMINARY REQUIREMENTS

All five factors in this category must be addressed affirmatively by the sponsor for further consideration to be given to the grant application.

- A. The site owner (project sponsor) must be willing and capable to operate and maintain the site for outdoor recreation in perpetuity.
- B. The sponsor must meet 50% of the project cost before matching LWCF dollars may be provided.
- C. The project must enhance the environmental setting of the site, and/or enhance the local or regional tourism potential.
- D. Compliance must be assured, with all applicable laws and regulations, including federal non-discriminatory rules and section 504, disabled access requirements.
- E. Priority considerations have been compiled to guide local LWCF expenditures. Each of the four items listed is a priority, with no more or less importance attached to any of them. The proposed project should help satisfy at least one of these priorities.

- 1. Projects which meet specific local needs;

2. Projects which will provide for both active and passive participation;
3. Projects which may be used for two or more seasons of the year;
4. Projects which accommodate a variety of recreational uses.

All subsequent factors will be given a score of 0-12 points based on the criteria described.

II. PROJECT TYPE & USE

- A. Use Season - The value of a facility to its surrounding community is most often directly proportional to the amount of use it receives. It is generally assumed that the more hours out of the day and months out of the year that a facility is usable the greater will be its use. Therefore, points are awarded for usable hours and months as follows:

Rating

1 point per useable month

As a guide to assigning points, the following standards are set:

Standards

outdoor pools - 4 months
tennis courts & other playing fields - 6 months
park areas - 8 months

12 points would be awarded for an all season facility.

- B. Active/Passive Recreation - Projects providing facilities or areas for both active and passive recreation will be given preference.

Active - courts, playing fields, trails, skating rinks etc.

Passive - benches, picnic and camping facilities.

Initial landscaping, to make a previously unusable parcel of

land usable as park land, is considered to provide both passive and active opportunities.

Rating

- B.1 For new projects and modification and/or upgrade of existing projects:

- 4 points - spectator facilities, support facilities i.e. toilets, parking
- 8 points - projects providing active or passive recreation.
- 12 points - projects providing active and passive recreation

- C. Project Design - Projects which provide for a variety of uses will receive priority.

Rating

1 point per activity

Example of standards:

- Horse arena - 1 use
- Spectator facilities - 1 use
- Multi-purpose courts - 2 uses
- Initial Landscaping - 2 uses
- Exercise trail - 2 uses

- D. Land Acquisition/Development - Because it makes available for public recreation use land presently unavailable, acquisition of new recreational land is given priority over development.

Rating

- 1 point - no acquisition
- 2 points - no acquisition, but development is proposed to accommodate outdoor recreation on land previously unsuitable for outdoor recreation activities
- 3 points - acquisition of recreational land

III. FINANCIAL PROFILE

- A. This is a measure of the per capita Land & Water Conservation Funds received to date by the project sponsor. The intent is to distribute LWCF dollars to as many eligible sponsors as possible, therefore sponsors from areas of low LWCF per capita expenditures will receive higher priority.

Rating

0-12 points - depending upon the ranking of the individual project as related to all applications received.

- B. Project sponsors not using other state or federal funds, but relying entirely on local agency funds or cash donations for their share of project costs will be awarded additional points as follows:

4 points - matching funds totally from federal sources

8 points - matching funds partially from federal and/or state sources

12 points - matching funds totally from local or private sources

Note: Revenue sharing funds are considered to be local agency funds.

IV. NEED FOR PROJECT

- A. Facility Standards - Priority will be given to those projects which demonstrate the greatest need based on the 1991 Facility Inventory and most recent Facility Standards in the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP).

Rating

0-12 points - depending upon ranking of individual projects.

Note: Subsections B through F refer to the local recreation needs survey. The local survey is implemented by the local sponsor of a LWCF project grant before application is made to determine the same information on a local basis. To qualify, a local survey must have been performed within the three years

preceding grant application.

- B. Activity Need - This information is derived from the local survey question, "Are there outdoor recreation activities members of your household would like to participate in but do not..." The frequency of each response will be recorded and ranked accordingly.

Rating

- 0 points - The activity most commonly associated with the project is not mentioned.
6 points - The frequency of the activity most commonly associated with the project is greater than zero, but falls below the median.
12 points - The frequency of the activity most commonly associated with the project is at or above the median, OR the activity is among the top five represented.

Example: Assume that 9 activities are mentioned, A through I, by local survey participants. Activity A is mentioned most often, thus has the highest frequency. Activity B is mentioned second most often and thus has the second highest frequency and so on.

A Highest Frequency
B
C
D
E Median
F
G
H
I Lowest Frequency

The median is the midpoint of this frequency span... the 5th position out of 9. The median is different than the average. Using this scheme, a project addressing any of activities A through E would receive 12 points. Likewise any project addressing activities F through I would receive 6 points.

- C. Facility/Activity Correlation - This information is derived from the local survey question, "Which one outdoor recreation activity do you feel is in the greatest need of additional facilities...?"

Rating

- 0 points - The activity most commonly associated with the project is not mentioned.
- 6 points - The frequency of the activity most commonly associated with the project is greater than zero, but falls below the median.
- 12 points - The frequency of the activity most commonly associated with the project is at or above the median, OR the activity is among the top five represented.

- D. Facility Need - This information is derived from the local survey question, "...what one kind of outdoor recreation area would your household prefer?"

Rating

- 0 points - The area-type is not mentioned.
- 6 points - The frequency of the area-type proposed for LWCF assistance is greater than zero, but falls below the median.
- 12 points - The frequency of the area-type proposed for LWCF assistance is at or above the median, OR the area-type is among the top five represented.

- E. Special Needs - This information is derived from the local survey question, "Do you feel there are adequate outdoor recreation opportunities for children, the elderly and the handicapped?" Needed facilities are identified by those responding negatively to this question.

Rating

- 0 points - No facilities related to the project are mentioned.
- 6 points - One facility included in the project is listed as being in need.
- 12 points - More than one facility included in the project are listed as being in need.

- F. Addressing Concerns - This information is derived from the local survey question, "What do you feel is the most important outdoor recreation problem or concern?" (Local survey question #7)

Rating

- 0 points - No aspect of the project is indicated as in need.
- 6 points - One documented concern is addressed by the project.
- 12 points - More than one documented concern is addressed by the project.

V. PROJECT APPLICATION & ADMINISTRATION

- A. It is important that project applications are well thought out, complete and punctual.

Rating

- 0 points - Incomplete at the time of evaluation.
- 2 points - The sponsor had to be contacted after submission to complete or clarify the application.
- 4 points - The application was received in good order, requiring no contact with the sponsor after submission.

- B. Administration of previous projects: A good record on previous projects is considered a positive factor and given special consideration. Factors considered will be operation and maintenance of previous projects, accounting procedures, timely utilization of previous dollars granted, and LWCF site inspection reports. If first time project sponsors appear to have a good grasp of project administration, 4 points will be given.

Rating: 0 points - Poor
2 points - Good
4 points - Excellent

- C. Resubmission of a previous year project: If during the previous year an eligible project was submitted but not funded, it will be given a maximum of 4 points.

Rating: 0 points - New proposal
4 points - Resubmission from last year

VI. PROVIDES FOR TRAIL RELATED OPPORTUNITIES

Based on information obtained from the 1993 SCORP Trend Analysis, and the Local Government Recreational Facility and Needs Inventory, proposals addressing trail related recreational opportunities will receive additional points as follows:

- 3 points Provides for a new trail in an area with outstanding or high demand for trail oriented activities.
- 2 points Maintenance or improvement of an existing trail.
- 1 points Provides for trail-head facilities to support and encourage trail use.

This criterion will primarily apply to proposals involving the development and/or enhancement of greenways, rail-trail projects, and/or trails and trail related projects sponsored by city, town, and county government agencies.

VII. PROVIDES FOR PARK RELATED DAY USE/PICNICKING AND/OR CAMPING OPPORTUNITIES

Based on information obtained from the 1993 SCORP Trend Analysis and results from the local government recreation facility and needs inventory, proposals addressing park related day use/picnicking/and/or camping recreational opportunities will receive additional points as follows:

- 6 points Access, new facilities, or acquisitions in an area with good resource potential or high demand.
- 3 points Provides for maintenance or enhancement of existing facilities.

This criterion will primarily apply to proposals involving the development or enhancement of city, town, or county parks, recreation areas, nature preserves, and/or historic resources.

VIII. PROVIDES FOR OUTDOOR SPORTS/GAMES RELATED OPPORTUNITIES

Based on information obtained from the local government recreation needs and facility inventory, the following additional points will be awarded for proposals addressing the enhancement or development of facilities such as those listed under section D of the facility inventory sheet (appendix J)

- 8 points Access, new facilities, or acquisitions in an area with good resource potential or high demand.
- 4 points Provides for maintenance or enhancement of existing facilities.

STATE SPONSORED PROJECT SELECTION PROCESS

Priorities have been established to help determine if a state-sponsored project will be considered for LWCF funding. A project proposal must address at least one priority to receive further consideration. The priorities listed below have no order of magnitude - one is as important as the other. The need for this flexibility has become acute with the severe funding cutbacks in the Land and Water Conservation Fund in recent years, since the highest priority statewide projects must now be funded with other sources of money if they are to be accomplished at all.

1. Projects earmarked for LWCF funding by the State Legislature.
2. Projects which will enhance the recreational experience by conserving the scenic, archaeologic, scientific, natural, historic, and/or recreational resources of the state and provide for their use.
3. Projects designed to aid in people management and law enforcement, i.e., controlled access, screened camping areas, vandal-proof facilities, area designations and development for specific uses.
4. Projects near population centers.
5. Projects which will serve as a destination vacation site, i.e., with significant attractions on site or within a short drive.
6. Projects which will help the state acquire inholding at existing sites.
7. Projects which will provide or enhance a trail experience or a trail-head onto other public land.

All projects determined desirable for LWCF funding must meet one of the below listed criteria. The criteria are listed in descending order of priority.

The projects which meet criteria #1 will receive matching LWCF assistance first. All projects within criteria #1 will be ranked according to the priority of additional criteria which are addressed, with the exception of criteria #8. The tendency will

be to rank that project highest which addresses the most consecutive criteria.

1. Health and safety, emergencies
2. Health and safety, routine concerns
3. Protection of existing investment
4. Projects that reduce operation and maintenance costs
5. Visitor service, comfort or convenience
6. Projects having no operations or maintenance impacts
7. Problem inholding
8. Acquisition of new parks

Operations and maintenance of the State Park System will be given priority over expansion. New acquisitions will be considered after the other criteria are adequately addressed.

A project which will significantly increase the cost of operation will be ranked lower than one which will not.

1992 LOCAL GOVERNMENT RECREATION FACILITY INVENTORY

A statewide survey of city, town, county, and tribal governments, including school districts was conducted in the spring of 1992.

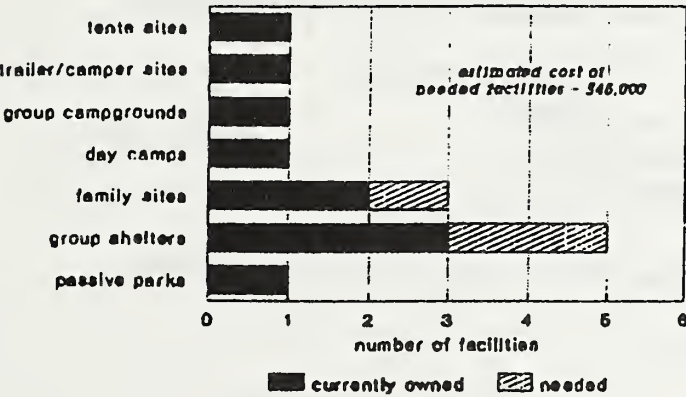
Government agencies were mailed a two page survey form (appendix J) and asked to identify the number of recreational facilities owned. Also asked was an estimate on the number of additional facilities needed to meet demand in five years, and the projected cost of the needed facilities.

Listed below is a synopsis of the data as reported from selected towns, cities and counties. Due to the extreme large size of this data-base, the complete inventory for all agencies and school districts will not be provided as part of the SCORP report. The complete inventory is on file in the State Parks Division Helena office, at 1420 East 6th Avenue, Helena, MT 59620. The Parks Division is in the process of incorporating the inventory data into a LOTUS spread sheet and Harvard Graphics data-base program. Data entry is expected to be completed by December of 1992.

Facility Graphs from selected counties, cities, towns and school districts:

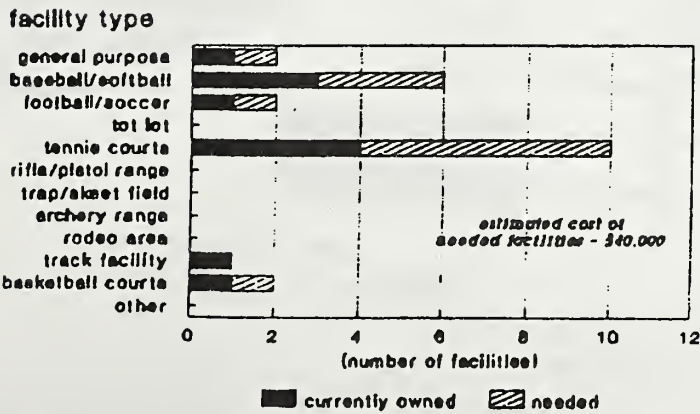
A

Campgrounds and Picnic Areas
City of Malta



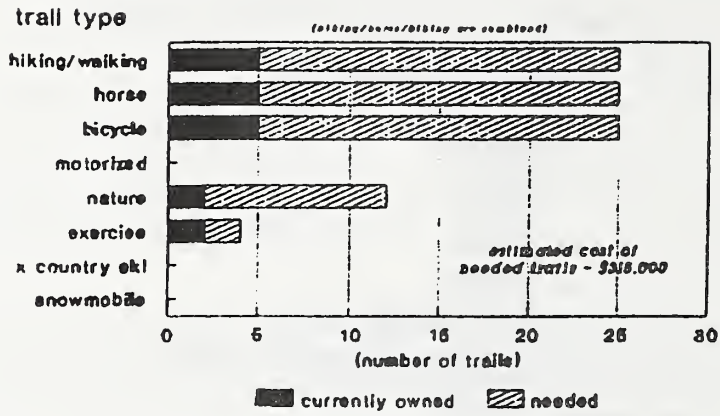
B

Sports & Playfields
Troy Public Schools



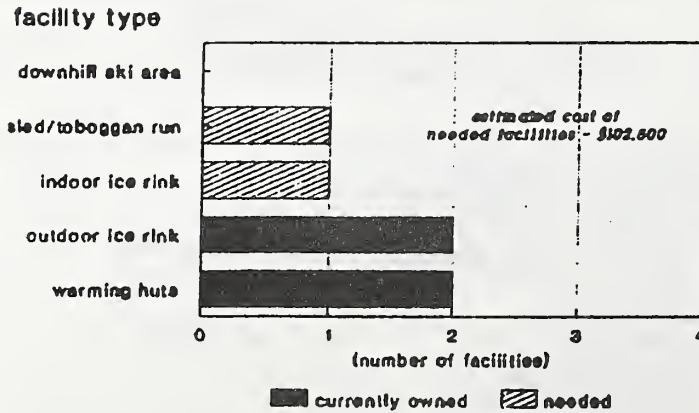
C

Trails Missoula City/County



D

Winter Sports City of Livingston



E

Winter Sports City of Livingston

facility type

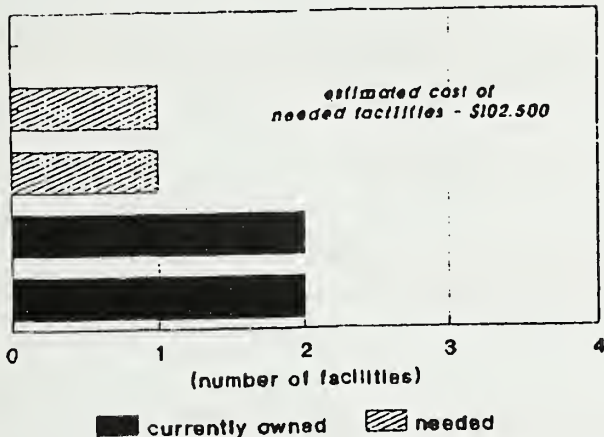
downhill ski area

sled/toboggan run

indoor ice rink

outdoor ice rink

warming huts



F

Sports & Playfields White Sulphur Springs School District

facility type

general purpose

baseball/softball

football/soccer

bat lot

tennis courts

rifle/shoot range

trap/shoot field

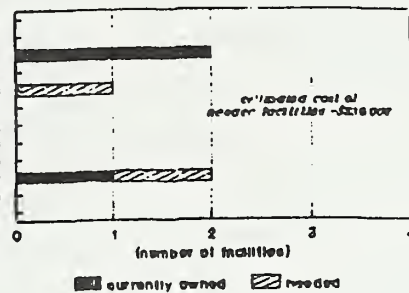
archery range

recreo area

track facility

basketball courts

other



G

Swimming/Boating/Fishing Facility Dawson County

type of facility

indoor pools

outdoor pools

wading pools

spray pools

swimming beach

bathhouse

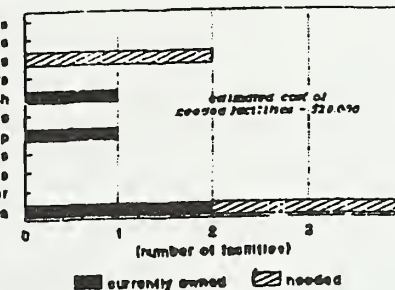
boat launch ramp

baths

boat lifts

fishing pier

fishing access area



H

Most Needed Facilities (for 7 Montana cities & 20 counties)

facility type

Outdoor Sports/Games

Day Use/Picnic Areas

Trails

Swim/Boat/Fishing

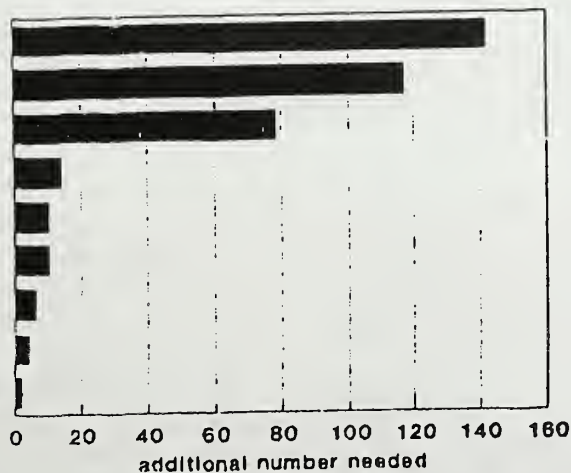
Natural Areas

Passive Parks

Winter Sport

Golf

Other



I

Most Needed Facilities as listed for 20 Montana counties

facility type

Outdoor Sports/Games

Day Use/Picnic Sites

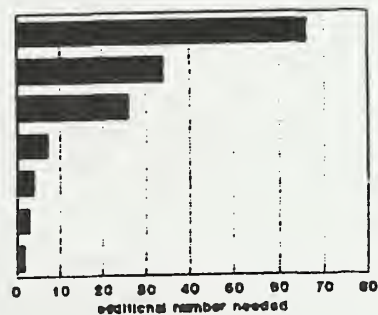
Trails

Swim/Boat/Fishing

Golf

Winter Sport

Other



J

Most Needed Facilities as listed for 7 Montana cities

facility type

Day Use/Picnicing

Outdoor Sports/Games

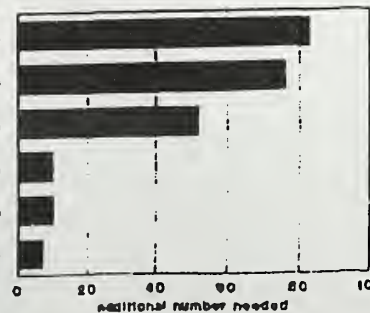
Trails

Passive Parks

Natural Areas

Boating/Fishing

Chicago, San Jose, Great Falls, Butte, Helena, Missoula, Glacier House, Great Falls, Missoula



Total cost of needed facilities for seven larger Montana cities
(facilities listed on graph j):

Cost.....\$15,379,000

Total Cost of needed facilities for 20 Counties (facilities
listed on graph I):

Cost.....\$6,349,500

Total Estimated Cost Of Needed Facilities
(7 cities and 20 counties, graph H).....\$21,728,500

THE 1994 MONTANA OUTDOOR RECREATION NEEDS SURVEY

Beginning in 1994 the State Parks Division will initiate a state-wide survey of Montanan's concerning the identification of needs involving recreational facilities, opportunities, and programs.

Specifically the survey will measure the following variables:

1. Participation in selected outdoor recreation activities.
2. Preferences for outdoor recreation participation.
3. State and federal recreation opportunities.
4. The most significant outdoor recreation problem(s) or concern(s) facing Montana.

The study will involve a state-wide telephone survey of Montanan's, beginning in the January of 1994. A report summarizing the survey findings will be completed by December of 1994.

The study will be a component of the 1998 SCORP and will serve to partially fulfill the SCORP requirements concerning an assessment and overview of outdoor recreation issues, assessment of resources, programs and opportunities, analysis of future needs, and an assessment of demand predictions and projections.

This survey is essentially a replication of a similar survey conducted in 1985. Recommendations concerning research methodologies, as outlined in the Analysis of Trends Report, will be closely followed through out the project.

III. MONTANA WETLANDS

MONTANA WETLANDS

Resource Assessment/Inventory

The Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks is the agency responsible for development of the wetlands section of the SCORP document. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) has assumed the lead role for the inventory and rating of wetlands in Montana since the passage of the Emergency Wetlands Resources Act of 1986.

The USFWS is currently directing the National Wetlands Inventory Project. Montana remains the least mapped state in USFWS Region 6 under the National Wetlands Inventory. Final inventory maps are being produced for the Flathead Indian reservation in cooperation with the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes. Draft maps will be available for Glacier National Park and surrounding area as a result of cooperation with the Park Service. These two projects will complete the inventory for the entire Flathead Valley in northwestern Montana. Draft maps will also be produced for that portion of the Prairie Pothole Region from Bowdoin National Wildlife Refuge to the East Front of the Rockies. Red Rocks Lake NWR and the surrounding areas will have draft maps in 1992. Plans are to begin a major inventory in eastern Montana in 1994.

The Regional Wetlands Concept Plan for the Mountain-Prairie Region was completed by the USFWS in July of 1990. This document is intended to provide guidance for the states if they decide to use LWCF monies to acquire wetlands. The following are excerpts from the Region 6 Regional Wetlands Concept Plan as they specifically relate to Montana. The plan in its entirety is presented in Appendix A of the SCORP report.

EXCERPTS FROM THE 1990 USFWS REGIONAL WETLANDS CONCEPT PLAN

Wetland Loses in Montana

While agricultural related impacts have not been as severe in Montana as in some states, such impacts have been the primary cause of wetland decline, especially of palustrine emergent wetlands. Agricultural drainage and overgrazing of wetlands and adjacent upland areas have been significant problems in both mountain and prairie pothole and riparian or floodplain wetlands. Cultivation near wetlands also has severely impacted both prairie pothole and riparian or floodplain wetlands. Sediments, salts, fertilizers, and pesticide residues, all largely originating from farm and ranch operations, also are significant sources of wetlands degradation.

In some parts of western Montana, urban development, often poorly regulated, has resulted in both direct wetland loss and

deterioration in wetland quality. Logging operations, road and railway development, and oil and gas production also have contributed to a general decline in wetlands and wetlands quality in the State.

Construction of major dams has resulted in the loss of significant areas of palustrine wetlands along streams and rivers. Despite being widely recognized, wetland losses and degradation in Montana have not been well quantified or concisely documented.

Wetland Threats

Recent legislation and related wetland protection programs at the national level (e.g., Swampbusters, Clean Water Act provisions, and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) wetlands protection program emphasis) appear to be reducing to some extent, wetland drainage and filling. However, there is little to suggest that the traditional heavy grazing and other agricultural-related practices affecting wetlands may be easing, except for some temporarily reduced cropping adjacent to wetlands stemming from the Conservation Reserve Program of the Food Security Act of 1986. Urban sprawl appears to be a growing problem. Renewed oil and gas exploration and production can be expected in some areas. Logging, road construction, and possible dam construction will remain of concern but are expected to cause fewer impacts than in the past in most areas.

The State of Montana has two excellent statutes largely designed to protect its remaining high quality stream and stream-dependent sport fisheries and related habitats. However, both of these statutes are essentially limited to the protection of the stream bed. Both the riparian zone and any interspersed wetlands, as well as natural wetlands more isolated from watercourses, such as prairie potholes, remain unprotected under State law. Few, if any, Montana communities provide significant local wetland protection through zoning restriction, ordinances, or other means.

An agreement recently signed by six concerned public agencies, entitled "Interagency Memorandum of Understanding: Management and Mitigation of Highway Construction Impacts to Wetlands in the State of Montana," should materially assist in limiting future impacts on wetlands stemming from road construction. However, a continuing general decline in the wetland base in the State appears most probable.

The continuing loss of high quality waterfowl breeding areas, especially in prairie pothole areas and in several areas where concentrations of small inter-mountain glaciated wetlands exist, are of particular concern to the USFWS national waterfowl management objectives. In addition, the widely varied wildlife

values of wetlands closely associated with river systems also likely will remain under pressure.

Wetland Functions and Values

The United States portion of the Prairie Pothole Region, which includes a significant part of northern Montana, has been recognized as the most important duck breeding area in the lower 48 States. Common nesting species in the Montana portion of the Region include the mallard, northern pintail, gadwall, blue-winged teal, shoveler, redhead, canvasback, and scaup. Investigators generally have reported a higher percentage of duck nesting success in the western portion of the Prairie Pothole Region than farther east, presumably because of fewer predator problems. Some Canada goose nesting also occurs. Use of the Montana portion of the Prairie Pothole Region by migrating waterfowl also is very important.

The Prairie Pothole Region also is important to many species of birds other than waterfowl, both as breeding and migration habitat. Over 225 bird species are known to nest in the region. This part of Montana also is important to several endangered bird species during seasonal migrations, including the whooping crane, bald eagle, interior least tern, and peregrine falcon.

Current research in Montana suggests stock dams located in large unfragmented blocks of western grazing land can be very productive for ducks, at least partly due to low predator populations and well dispersed nests (Ball et al. 1988). Recently, Montana waterfowl managers have been inclined to emphasize these habitats. An example is the Beaver Creek Project in Phillips County in northern Montana that is part of the Prairie Pothole Joint Venture (see Appendix B). Plans call for the creation of approximately 3,800 surface acres of wetlands within 800 small storage basins.

There are other areas of concentrated wetlands in Montana, outside the Prairie Pothole Region, having notable wildlife values. An example is the Flathead Valley in western Montana. This area is particularly important to nesting redhead ducks. A study by Lokeman (1966) reported this area to contain the highest published density of nesting redhead ducks in North America. This general area is also important to the endangered bald eagle for nesting, wintering, and migration habitat. Much of the remainder of the State also contains valuable wetland habitats, ranging from small, intermountain glaciated complexes, such as near Ovando; the riverine-related wetlands associated with major drainage systems, especially in western and southwestern Montana; and isolated closed basins in central and south-central Montana. In addition to their value to waterfowl and many migratory birds, these wetland concentrations, including Prairie Pothole Region wetlands, provide for critical seasonal or year-round habitat for a wide range of resident wildlife, including deer, upland game birds, furbearers, and, especially in western Montana, elk,

moose, and bear.

According to The Nature Conservancy, about 10 percent of Montana plant species are considered to be "rare," including endemic, disjunct, and peripheral species, and species which occur at widespread, but very few locations. Some of these plant species are dependent on wetlands. For example Howellia aquatilis), a candidate species for listing as endangered or threatened, occurs largely in the glacial potholes and old river oxbows of the Swan Valley. Water lilies, moonwort, and water-meal are among the other rare plant taxa dependent upon or associated with Montana wetlands.

(END OF USFWS EXCERPTS)

Protection Strategies

State legislation in 1987 (Sec. 87-1-241, 242 MCA) created an earmarked source of revenue that will go towards a wildlife habitat acquisition program. Guidelines for the program are currently being assembled and will apply to wetlands. This is in addition to a State Waterfowl Stamp program initiated in 1985 (Sec. 87-2-411, 412 MCA). Efforts under this latter law are being directed towards enhancement and development of wetland-upland complexes for waterfowl production.

The intent of the state waterfowl stamp program is to protect, develop and enhance wetlands and associated uplands areas to increase waterfowl production capabilities. Specific work activities will take place on both state and privately owned lands and will include incentives for such things as island construction, diking, installation of water control structures, erection of artificial nest structures, seeding of dense nesting cover, and fencing to control livestock grazing. Easements and/or acquisitions will be used to provide public access and to protect existing wetlands.

This program is reviewed by an advisory council composed of representatives from the agricultural industry, sportsmen and non-consumptive groups. Activities are also overseen by the Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks Commission. Dollars from the waterfowl stamp program will be used to match funds from the Ducks Unlimited Matching Aid to Restore States Habitat (MARSH) program and to assist with development of Ducks Unlimited U.S. Habitat projects. The program has been used to cost share suitable habitat development projects with the USFWS Private Lands Program.

Two Montana Prairie Pothole Joint Venture (PPJV) projects are underway in Montana. These include the Northeast Montana PPJV (Sheridan, Daniels, and Roosevelt Counties) and the Hi-Line PPJV (Phillips County). Significant progress has been made in terms

of wetland restoration, development and enhancement in these areas. The proposed Five Valley PPJV of western Montana is currently being reviewed for official endorsement by the North American Waterfowl Management Plan and the Lonesome Lake PPJV is in the concept stage.

These efforts have included the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks, the Department of State Lands, the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Bureau of Land Management, the Bureau of Reclamation, Ducks Unlimited, The Nature Conservancy, and the Soil Conservation Service. Other agricultural groups and wildlife-oriented organizations will be invited to participate in the near future. The Montana PPJV Implementation Plan was completed in February 1990.

These joint ventures focus on increasing the productivity of wetland and associated grassland habitats on both private and public lands. Management strategies are designed to improve soil and water conservation, increase waterfowl production and benefit a variety of wildlife species.

The Interagency Wetlands Memorandum of Understanding was recently updated for the protection of wetland resources associated with highway construction activities. This document lays out a procedure to inventory wetland habitats along proposed highway right-of-ways and to quantify unavoidable impacts. The process seeks to avoid and minimize impacts whenever possible. If impacts are unavoidable the procedure calls for mitigating on-site if possible, off-site as a second priority, and banking if no other feasible alternatives exist. The working group includes the Montana Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks, U.S. Forest Service, Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Army Corp of Engineers, and the Montana Department of Health and Environmental Sciences Water Quality Bureau.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has recently implemented a program in Montana designed to offer additional protection to wetland basins already protected under wetland easements. In these areas the adjacent uplands are targeted for protection through grassland easements. Approximately 6000 upland acres have been placed under perpetual easement in key locations.

The Department of Health and Environmental Sciences recently received a grant from the EPA for the development of a statewide wetlands protection strategy. The program will be coordinated through the Water Quality Bureau, with other state, federal, and private organizations assisting. The DNRC is currently working with the Bureau of Reclamation's regional office to summarize existing wetland protection regulations and programs in Montana.

In conjunction with these activities, the development of a wetlands education program would be quite beneficial. The

program could provide information to the public on the importance of wetland conservation and emphasize the contributions that wetlands make to healthy ecological systems. Interpretive displays could be incorporated into existing state wildlife management or park areas in a variety of habitat types.

Public involvement was extensive in the development of the above strategies. Numerous public hearings were held in the development of the 1987 State legislation (Sec. 87-1-241, 242 MCA) and the waterfowl stamp program. The waterfowl stamp program includes a publicly advertized annual contest to choose a painting for the stamp with proceeds from the sale of art prints to be used for waterfowl habitat.

State Priorities

Guidelines being developed for the above programs will be instrumental in the prioritization of potential acquisition activities under the LWCF program. The DFWP has not yet developed a separate prioritized ranking of wetlands for acquisition. The efforts of the USFWS, however, have laid out some guidelines for wetland protection within the state.

Certain areas of the state obviously have much greater potential for wetland protection, development and enhancement based on habitat and breeding densities.

Appendix C contains a list of wetlands types in Montana that should receive priority for acquisition. The wetlands types listed have been identified as wetlands decreasing in number through out USFWS Region 6, and are the predominate wetland types of those parcels identified in appendix 1 of the 1990 USFWS Regional Wetlands Concept Plan as being eligible for acquisition. The wetlands types are not listed in priority order and this is not an exhaustive list. Additional wetlands types may be added to the list as resources allow and as additional information becomes available.

Please note that according to USFWS policy, acquisition is only one tool available to achieve "no net loss" of wetlands. There may never be sufficient funds available to purchase and manage all the wetland acreage of those types identified as critically important.

Currently less than \$1,000,000 is available from other funding sources and programs for wetlands work in the state. Most of the dollars available are targeted for enhancement or development work and do not include acquisition. Unfortunately, the low level of funding currently allocated to the stateside LWCF program precludes the acquisition of wetlands as a high priority for LWCF revenue in Montana.

The department is considering funding strategies which could

allow the use of wetlands funds to share in the acquisition or development of portions of parklands for waterfowl production. No change in the LWCF priority rating system is necessary for these purposes at this time.

National Issues

Montana has complied with the National Park Service request to amend our SCORP document to satisfy new wetlands criteria; however, the current level of LWCF monies discourages the funding of all but park and recreation related projects.

Montana wetlands have not been negatively impacted to the degree of the prairie pothole regions of the Dakotas and Minnesota. However, impacts such as drainage, intensified agricultural activities and subdivision development continue to reduce the productivity of wetlands within the state.

The thrust of the NWPP is protection of natural wetland basins, especially those in the high loss category. Obviously these are very important components on a national level. Within the state of Montana, particularly in eastern Montana, the importance of artificially created livestock reservoirs to the wetland base and waterfowl production is significant on a nationwide basis.

Appendix C

Priority Wetland Types for Acquisition

This list is based on the information provided in appendix 1 of the 1990 USFWS Regional Wetlands Concept Plan.

Wetland Type:

1. Plustrine emergent
2. Palustrine forested
3. Palustrian scrub-shrub
4. Lacustrine littoral

The significance associated with each of the above wetland types primarily involves waterfowl production habitat, migration habitat, furbearer habitat, upland bird habitat, and endangered flora and fauna habitat protection and enhancement.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

(A summary of public comments on the draft plan will be included with the final report)

V. APPENDICES

APPENDIX B

COMPARISON OF OLD AND NEW LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND OPEN PROJECT SELECTION PROCESS

old

LOCALLY SPONSORED

LAND & WATER CONSERVATION FUND

PROJECT SELECTION PROCESS

In order to allocate Land & Water Conservation Fund dollars equitably, a project rating system has been developed to consider a variety of pertinent factors.

THE FACTORS CONSIDERED

I. PRELIMINARY REQUIREMENTS

All five factors in this category must be addressed affirmatively by the sponsor for further consideration to be given to the grant application.

A. (Project sponsor)

The site owner must be willing and capable to operate and maintain the site for outdoor recreation in perpetuity.

B. The sponsor must meet 50% of the project cost before matching LMCF dollars may be provided.

C. The project must enhance the environmental setting of the site, and/or enhance the local or regional tourism potential.

D. Compliance must be assured, with all applicable laws and regulations, including federal non-discriminatory rules, and section 504, disabled access requirements.

E. Priority considerations have been compiled to guide local LMCF expenditures. Each of the four items listed is a priority, with no more or less importance attached to any of them. The proposed project should help satisfy at least one of these priorities.

1. Projects which meet specific local needs;

2. Projects which will provide for both active and passive participation;

3. Projects which may be used for two or more seasons of the year;

4. Projects which accommodate a variety of recreational uses.

All subsequent factors will be given a score of 0-12 points based on the criteria described.

II. PROJECT TYPE & USE

A. Use Season - The value of a facility to its surrounding community is most often directly proportional to the amount of

new

LOCALLY SPONSORED

LAND & WATER CONSERVATION FUND

OPEN PROJECT SELECTION PROCESS

(Revised August, 1992)

In order to allocate Land & Water Conservation Fund dollars equitably, the project rating system has been revised to consider a variety of pertinent factors.

THE FACTORS CONSIDERED

I. PRELIMINARY REQUIREMENTS

All five factors in this category must be addressed affirmatively by the sponsor for further consideration to be given to the grant application.

A. The site owner (project sponsor) must be willing and capable to operate and maintain the site for outdoor recreation in perpetuity.

B. The sponsor must meet 50% of the project cost before matching LMCF dollars may be provided.

C. The project must enhance the environmental setting of the site, and/or enhance the local or regional tourism potential.

D. Compliance must be assured, with all applicable laws and regulations, including federal non-discriminatory rules and section 504, disabled access requirements.

E. Priority considerations have been compiled to guide local LMCF expenditures. Each of the four items listed is a priority, with no more or less importance attached to any of them. The proposed project should help satisfy at least one of these priorities.

1. Projects which meet specific local needs;

2. Projects which will provide for both active and passive participation;

3. Projects which may be used for two or more seasons of the year;

4. Projects which accommodate a variety of recreational uses.

All subsequent factors will be given a score of 0-12 points based on the criteria described.

use it receives. It is generally assumed that the more hours out of the day and months out of the year that a facility is usable the greater will be its use. Therefore, points are awarded for usable hours and months as follows:

Rating
1 point per usable month
~~0 points - 0-4 months~~
~~5 points - 5-8 months or night-lighting~~
~~10 points - 9-12 months~~

As a guide to assigning points, the following standards are set:

Standards

Outdoor pools - 0-4 months
tennis courts & other playing fields - ~~5-8 months~~
park areas - ~~5-8 months~~
~~12 points - 8 months~~
~~ten-points are allowed only if the proposal is for an all season facility.~~

- B. Active/Passive Recreation - Projects providing facilities or areas for both active and passive recreation will be given preference.

Rating

~~0 points - spectator facilities, support facilities~~
~~5 points - projects providing active or passive recreation~~
~~10 points - projects providing active and passive recreation~~
~~active courts, playing fields, trails, skating rinks etc~~
~~passive benches, picnic and camping facilities~~

Initial landscaping, to make a previously unusable parcel of land usable as park land, is considered to provide both passive and active opportunities.

- C. Population Segment Served - It is the intent of the program to provide outdoor recreation opportunities to all income groups. Since lower income groups tend to be excluded as the cost of participation increases, priority will be given to facilities not requiring a user fee or expensive participant equipment.

Rating

~~0 points - requires a user fee and expensive equipment~~
~~5 points - requires a user fee or expensive equipment~~
~~10 points - requires no user fee or expensive equipment~~

II. PROJECT TYPE & USE

- A. Use Season - The value of a facility to its surrounding community is most often directly proportional to the amount of use it receives. It is generally assumed that the more hours out of the day and months out of the year that a facility is usable the greater will be its use. Therefore, points are awarded for usable hours and months as follows:

Rating
1 point per useable month

As a guide to assigning points, the following standards are set:

Standards

outdoor pools - 4 months
tennis courts & other playing fields - 6 months
park areas - 8 months

12 points would be awarded for an all season facility.

- B. Active/Passive Recreation - Projects providing facilities or areas for both active and passive recreation will be given preference.

Active - courts, playing fields, trails, skating rinks etc.

Passive - benches, picnic and camping facilities.

Initial landscaping, to make a previously unusable parcel of land usable as park land, is considered to provide both passive and active opportunities.

Rating

- B.1 For new projects and modification and/or upgrade of existing projects:

4 points - spectator facilities, support facilities i.e. toilets, parking
8 points - projects providing active or passive recreation.
12 points - projects providing active and passive recreation

- C. Project Design - Projects which provide for a variety of uses will receive priority.

Standards

Golf course - 0 points
Tennis courts, pools, skis, and ice skating rinks - 5 points
Ball fields, playgrounds, - 10 points

- B. Project Design - Projects which provide for a variety of uses will receive priority.

Rating

1 point per activity

0 points - Designed & used primarily for one activity
5 points - Suitable for two or more activities
10 points - Designed primarily for multiple uses (three three or more activities)

Standards

Horse arena - 1 use
Spectator facilities - 1 use
Multi-purpose courts - 2 uses
Initial Landscaping - 2 uses
Exercise trail - 2 uses

5. Energy Conservation - Projects which contribute to the conservation of energy will be awarded points according to the extent of conservation exhibited

Rating

0 points - no energy conservation elements
5 points - 1-2 energy conservation elements
10 points - 3 or more energy conservation elements

Standards

Elements contributing to energy conservation

1. energy efficient design methods and materials for site and buildings
2. use of alternative power systems to minimize the use of petroleum and natural gas
3. adaptive reuse of existing structures over new construction where appropriate
4. located close to populated areas and are accessible by foot, bicycle or public transportation
5. retrofitting to improve the energy efficiency of existing recreation facilities
6. projects resulting from an energy audit or energy efficiency plan

Rating

1 point per activity

Example of standards:

Horse arena - 1 use
Spectator facilities - 1 use
Multi-purpose courts - 2 uses
Initial Landscaping - 2 uses
Exercise trail - 2 uses

- D. Land Acquisition/Development - Because it makes available for public recreation use land presently unavailable, acquisition of new recreational land is given priority over development.

Rating

1 point - no acquisition
2 points - no acquisition, but development is proposed to accommodate outdoor recreation on land previously unsuitable for outdoor recreation activities
3 points - acquisition of recreational land

III. FINANCIAL PROFILE

- A. This is a measure of the per capita land & Water Conservation Funds received to date by the project sponsor. The intent is to distribute LWCF dollars to as many eligible sponsors as possible, therefore sponsors from areas of low LWCF per capita expenditures will receive higher priority.

Rating

0-12 points - depending upon the ranking of the individual project as related to all applications received.

- B. Project sponsors not using other state or federal funds, but relying entirely on local agency funds or cash donations for their share of project costs will be awarded additional points as follows:

4 points - matching funds totally from federal sources
8 points - matching funds partially from federal and/or state sources
12 points - matching funds totally from local or private sources

Note: Revenue sharing funds are considered to be local agency funds.

- ~~7. projects which help minimize energy development impacts~~
- D. F. Land Acquisition/Development - Because it makes available for public recreation use land presently unavailable, acquisition of new recreational land is given priority over development.

Rating

- 1 4 points - no acquisition
- 2 5 points - no acquisition, but development is proposed to accommodate outdoor recreation on land previously unsuitable for outdoor recreation activities
- 3 10 points - acquisition of recreational land

III. FINANCIAL PROFILE

- A. This is a measure of the per capita Land & Water Conservation Funds received to date by the project sponsor. The intent is to distribute LMCF dollars to as many eligible sponsors as possible, therefore sponsors from areas of low LMCF per capita expenditures will receive higher priority.

Rating

0-10 points - depending upon the ranking of the individual project as related to all applications received.

Insert B

- B. ~~Project sponsors not using other state or federal funds, but relying entirely on local agency funds or such donations for their share of project costs, will be given priority.~~

Rating

~~0 points - matching funds totally from federal sources~~
~~5 points - matching funds partially from federal and/or state sources~~
~~10 points - matching funds totally from local or private sources~~

~~Notes: Revenue sharing funds are considered to be local agency funds.~~

IV. NEED FOR PROJECT

- A. Facility Standards - Priority will be given to those projects which demonstrate the greatest need based on the 1994 Facility Inventory and most recent Facility Standards in the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP).

Rating

¹²
~~0-10~~ points - depending upon ranking of individual projects.

IV. NEED FOR PROJECT

- A. Facility Standards - Priority will be given to those projects which demonstrate the greatest need based on the 1991 Facility Inventory and most recent Facility Standards in the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP).

Rating

0-12 points - depending upon ranking of individual projects.

Note:

Subsections B through F refer to the local recreation needs survey. The local survey is implemented by the local sponsor of a LMCF project grant before application is made to determine the same information on a local basis. To qualify, a local survey must have been performed within the three years preceding grant application.

- B. Activity Need - This information is derived from the local survey question, "Are there outdoor recreation activities members of your household would like to participate in but do not..." The frequency of each response will be recorded and ranked accordingly.

Rating

- 0 points - The activity most commonly associated with the project is not mentioned.
- 6 points - The frequency of the activity is greater than associated with the project is greater than zero, but falls below the median.
- 12 points - The frequency of the activity most commonly associated with the project is at or above the median, OR the activity is among the top five represented.

Example: Assume that 9 activities are mentioned, A through I, by local survey participants. Activity A is mentioned most often, thus has the highest frequency. Activity B is mentioned second most often and thus has the second highest frequency and so on.

- A Highest Frequency
- B
- C
- D
- E Median
- F
- G
- H
- I Lowest Frequency

Note:

Subsections B through F refer to the state and local surveys. The state survey was done in 1985 by telephone to determine recreational attitudes and needs on a statewide basis. The local survey is implemented by the local sponsor of a LMCF project grant before application is made to determine the same information on a local basis. To qualify, a local survey must have been performed within the three years preceding grant application.

- B. Activity Need - This information is derived from the local and state survey question, "Are there outdoor recreation activities members of your household would like to participate in but do not...?" The frequency of each response will be recorded and ranked accordingly.

Rating

- 0 points - The activity most commonly associated with the project is not mentioned.
5 points - The frequency of the activity most commonly associated with the project is greater than zero, but falls below the median.
12 points - The frequency of the activity most commonly associated with the project is at or above the median, OR the activity is among the top five represented.

Example

Assume that 9 activities are mentioned, A through I, by local survey participants. Activity A is mentioned most often, thus has the highest frequency. Activity B is mentioned second most often and thus has the second highest frequency and so on.

- A Highest Frequency
B
C
D
E Median
F
G
H
I Lowest Frequency

The median is the midpoint of this frequency span... the 5th position out of 9. The median is different than the average. Using this scheme, a project addressing any of activities A through E would receive 10 points. Likewise any project addressing activities F through I would receive 5 points.

- C. Facility/Activity Correlation - This information is derived from the local and state survey question, "Which one outdoor recreation activity do you feel is in the greatest need of additional facilities...?"

The median is the midpoint of this frequency span... the 5th position out of 9. The median is different than the average. Using this scheme, a project addressing any of activities A through E would receive 12 points. Likewise any project addressing activities F through I would receive 6 points.

- C. Facility/Activity Correlation - This information is derived from the local survey question, "Which one outdoor recreation activity do you feel is in the greatest need of additional facilities...?"

Rating

- 0 points - The activity most commonly associated with the project is not mentioned.
6 points - The frequency of the activity most commonly associated with the project is greater than zero, but falls below the median.
12 points - The frequency of the activity most commonly associated with the project is at or above the median, OR the activity is among the top five represented.

- D. Facility Need - This information is derived from the local survey question, "...what one kind of outdoor recreation area would your household prefer?"

Rating

- 0 points - The area-type is not mentioned.
6 points - The frequency of the area-type proposed for LMCF assistance is greater than zero, but falls below the median.
12 points - The frequency of the area-type proposed for LMCF assistance is at or above the median, OR the area-type is among the top five represented.

- E. Special Needs - This information is derived from the local survey question, "Do you feel there are adequate outdoor recreation opportunities for children, the elderly and the handicapped?" Needed facilities are identified by those responding negatively to this question.

Rating

- 0 points - No facilities related to the project are mentioned.
6 points - One facility included in the project is listed as being in need.
12 points - More than one facility included in the project are listed as being in need.

Rating

- 0 points - The activity most commonly associated with the project is not mentioned.
 5 points - The frequency of the activity most commonly associated with the project is greater than zero, but falls below the median.
 12 points - The frequency of the activity most commonly associated with the project is at or above the median, OR the activity is among the top five represented.

D. Facility Need - This information is derived from the local and state survey question, "...What one kind of outdoor recreation area would your household prefer?"

Rating

- 0 points - The area-type is not mentioned.
 5 points - The frequency of the area-type proposed for LWCF assistance is greater than zero, but falls below the median.
 12 points - The frequency of the area-type proposed for LWCF assistance is at or above the median, OR the area-type is among the top five represented.

E. Special Needs - This information is derived from the local survey question, "Do you feel there are adequate outdoor recreation opportunities for children, the elderly and the handicapped?" Needed facilities are identified by those responding negatively to this question.

Rating

- 0 points - No facilities related to the project are mentioned.
 5 points - One facility included in the project is listed as being in need.
 12 points - More than one facility included in the project are listed as being in need.

F. Addressing Concerns - This information is derived from the local and state survey question, "What do you feel is the most important outdoor recreation problem or concern?" (Local survey question #7; State survey question #6)

Rating

- 0 points - No aspect of the project is indicated as in need.
 5 points - One documented concern is addressed by the project.
 12 points - More than one documented concern is addressed by the project.

V. PROJECT APPLICATION & ADMINISTRATION

A. It is important that project applications are well thought out, complete and punctual.

F. Addressing Concerns - This information is derived from the local survey question, "What do you feel is the most important outdoor recreation problem or concern?" (Local survey question #7)

Rating

- 0 points - No aspect of the project is indicated as in need.
 6 points - One documented concern is addressed by the project.
 12 points - More than one documented concern is addressed by the project.

V. PROJECT APPLICATION & ADMINISTRATION

A. It is important that project applications are well thought out, complete and punctual.

Rating

- 0 points - Incomplete at the time of evaluation.
 2 points - The sponsor had to be contacted after submission to complete or clarify the application.
 4 points - The application was received in good order, requiring no contact with the sponsor after submission.

B. Administration of previous projects: A good record on previous projects is considered a positive factor and given special consideration. Factors considered will be operation and maintenance of previous projects, accounting procedures, timely utilization of previous dollars granted, and LWCF site inspection reports. If first time project sponsors appear to have a good grasp of project administration, 4 points will be given.

- Rating: 0 points - Poor
 2 points - Good
 4 points - Excellent

C. Resubmission of a previous year project: If during the previous year an eligible project was submitted but not funded, it will be given a maximum of 4 points.

- Rating: 0 points - New proposal
 4 points - Resubmission from last year

Rating

- 2 0 points - Incomplete at the time of evaluation.
- 2 5 points - The sponsor had to be contacted after submission to complete or clarify the application.
- 4 10 points - The application was received in good order, requiring no contact with the sponsor after submission.

B. Administration of previous projects: A good record on previous projects is considered a positive factor and given special consideration. Factors considered will be operation and maintenance of previous projects, accounting procedures and timely utilization of previous dollars granted. If first time project sponsors appear to have a good grasp of project administration, 10 points will be given.

Rating: 0 points - Poor
2 5 points - Good
4 10 points - Excellent

C. Resubmission of a previous year project: If during the previous year an eligible project was submitted but not funded, it will be given a maximum of 10 points.

Rating: 0 points - New proposal
4 10 points - Resubmission from last year

Insert VI, VII and VIII

OPSP.REV

VI. PROVIDES FOR TRAIL RELATED OPPORTUNITIES

Based on information obtained from the 1993 SCORP Trend Analysis, and the Local Government Recreational Facility and Needs Inventory, proposals addressing trail related recreational opportunities will receive additional points as follows:

- 3 points Provides for a new trail in an area with outstanding or high demand for trail oriented activities.
- 2 points Maintenance or improvement of an existing trail.
- 1 point Provides for trail-head facilities to support and encourage trail use.

This criterion will primarily apply to proposals involving the development and/or enhancement of greenways, rail-trail projects, and/or trails and trail related projects sponsored by city, town, and county government agencies.

VII. PROVIDES FOR PARK RELATED DAY USE/PICNICKING AND/OR CAMPING OPPORTUNITIES

Based on information obtained from the 1993 SCORP Trend Analysis and results from the local government recreation facility and needs inventory, proposals addressing park related day use/picnicking/and/or camping recreational opportunities will receive additional points as follows:

- 6 points Access, new facilities, or acquisitions in an area with good resource potential or high demand.
- 3 points Provides for maintenance or enhancement of existing facilities.

This criterion will primarily apply to proposals involving the development or enhancement of city, town, or county parks, recreation areas, nature preserves, and/or historic resources.

VIII. PROVIDES FOR OUTDOOR SPORTS/GAMES RELATED OPPORTUNITIES

Based on information obtained from the local government recreation needs and facility inventory, the following additional points will be awarded for proposals addressing the enhancement or development of facilities such as those listed under section D of the facility inventory sheet (appendix J)

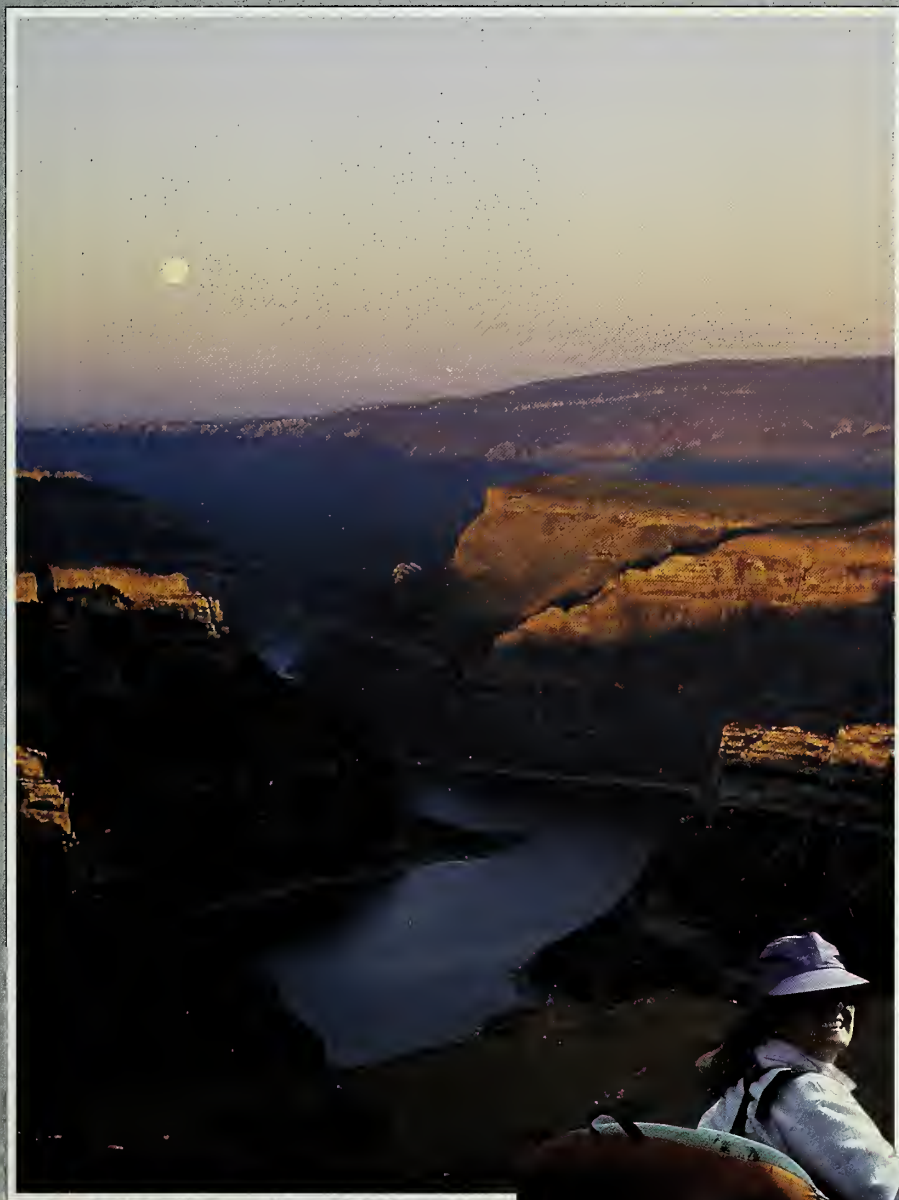
- 8 points Access, new facilities, or acquisitions in an area with good resource potential or high demand.
- 4 points Provides for maintenance or enhancement of existing facilities.

APPENDIX C

MONTANA 1992 RECREATION GUIDE

Montana

1992 Recreation Guide

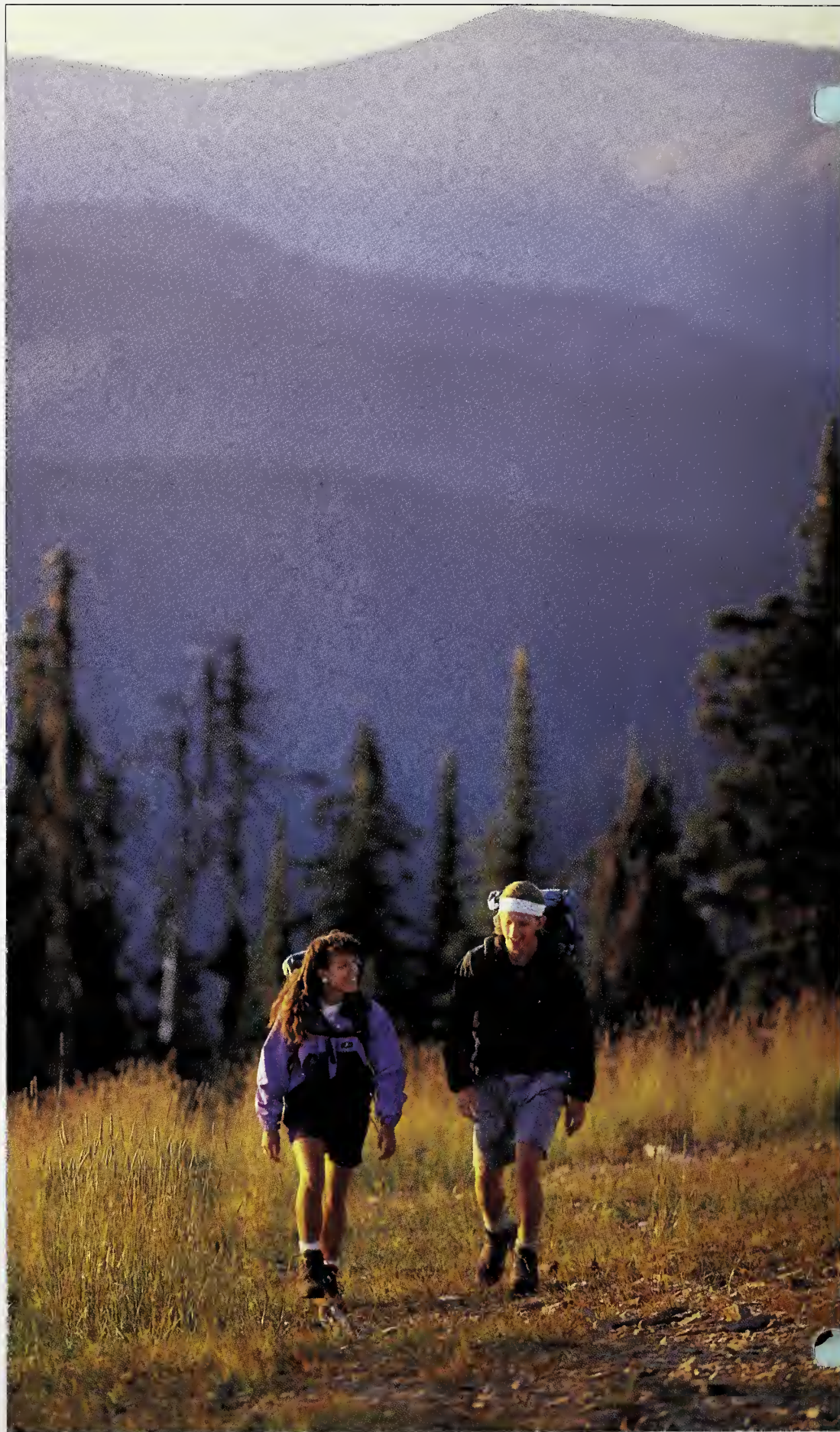


You're invited to discover Montana. The "Big Sky" offers you over 25 million acres of national forests and public lands, thousands of miles of hiking trails, extensive fishing access, abundant wildlife, over 300 campsites managed by state and federal agencies, 60 state parks and two national parks.



*Makoshika State Park
(Michael S. Sample)*

How to enjoy all this? Well . . . there is hiking, biking, rock climbing, rock bouldering, hunting, fishing, floating, boating, skiing, and snowmobiling, to name a few. Come spend some time with us. We'll guarantee you'll take home the best kinds of memories—those that linger for a lifetime.



Hiking in Montana (Scott Spiker)

Montana

1992 Recreation Guide



Recreational opportunities in Montana are as fascinating as our Big Sky. This guide will introduce you to the state and federal agencies that manage an exciting variety of public campgrounds for your enjoyment. Add to this a complete listing of privately owned campgrounds, with some great amenities. For Montana adventure at its best, consult our listing of licensed outfitters, whose expertise will add immeasurably to your vacation.

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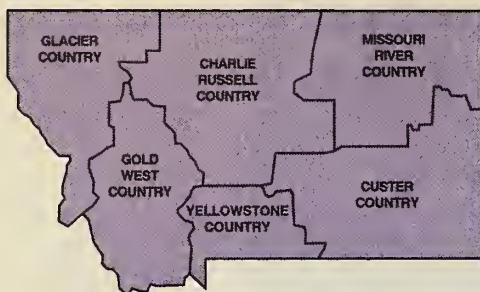
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This guide is produced by Travel Montana,
Department of Commerce, in partnership with:
Montana Dept. of Fish Wildlife and Parks
U.S. Forest Service
U.S. Bureau of Land Management
U.S. Bureau of Reclamation

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Cover Photos:
Big Horn Canyon (Larry Mayer)
Fly-fishing (Dale Spartus)

Exploring Montana—Six Exciting Choices!



From the spectacular western mountains to the sprawling eastern plains, Montana contains a tremendous variety of landscapes, recreational opportunities, and historical sites. To help you explore Montana, we have divided the state into six vacation countries, each with its own unique attractions and superb scenery.

Glacier Country

Glacier Country is Montana's spectacular northwest corner, a dazzling mixture of wildlife and wilderness, sparkling lakes and lush pine forests. Explore the soaring beauty of Glacier National Park, play nationally acclaimed golf courses, spend a week at family resorts, and discover wild rivers that are perfect for fishing and rafting. *Contact: 800-338-5072 or 756-7128*

Gold West Country

Gold West Country is Montana's colorful southwest corner, a beautiful region of lofty mountains and broad valleys, restored gold-mining camps and prized trout streams. Walk through a historic Indian battlefield, hike backcountry trails, and cast a line into fabled rivers that beckon trout fishermen from around the world. *Contact: 846-1943*

Charlie Russell Country

Charlie Russell Country is north-central Montana as the famed western artist loved it, a dramatic expanse of land and sky, colorful cowboys and Plains Indians. Float the wild and scenic Missouri River, follow the trail of Lewis and Clark, visit prehistoric hunting sites, and explore mountain ranges where the Rockies meet the Great Plains. *Contact: 800-527-5348 or 761-5036*

Yellowstone Country

Yellowstone Country is a magnificent mountain paradise in south-central Montana, an unforgettable land of watchable wildlife and majestic peaks, scenic highways and blue-ribbon trout streams. Visit Yellowstone National Park, stay at historic dude ranches, or take a high-country trip through a pristine wilderness area. *Contact: 800-736-5276 or 446-1005*

Missouri River Country

Missouri River Country is Montana's far-flung northeast corner, a fascinating land of high plains and deep badlands, vast wheat ranches and the mighty Missouri. Visit a million-acre wildlife refuge, watch thousands of waterfowl take to the Big Sky from prairie ponds, and launch a motorboat on immense Fort Peck Lake, one of the nation's best walleye fisheries. *Contact: 525-3410*

Custer Country

Custer Country is Montana's southeastern corner, a historic landscape of Indian reservations and meandering rivers, rolling hills and rugged canyons. Tour the grassy hilltop where Lt. Col. George Custer lost his life in the Battle of the Little Bighorn, and fish for trout, walleye, and smallmouth bass in some of Montana's finest lakes and streams. *Contact: 665-1671*

For Travel Information, call: 1-800-541-1447 (outside MT), 444-2654 (in MT)

The following publications are available free of charge through:
Travel Montana, Dept. of Commerce, Helena, MT 59620

Montana Fishing Guide

A colorful 16-page guide to Montana's waters, game fish, and angling opportunities, with detailed maps.

Montana Golf Guide

A brochure listing over 70 of Montana's public and private courses.

Montana Highway Map

A colorful 35" x 18" detailed map of Montana, including mileage chart.

Montana Lodging Guide

A directory of motels/hotels, bed and breakfast inns, ranches, resorts, hostels, and hot springs.

Montana Snowmobiling Guide

A 32-page guide in full color to trail systems, rentals, services, lodging, and snowmobile activities.

Montana Vacation Guide

A colorful 48-page planning guide to Montana's attractions and points of interest, including a detailed pullout highway map.

Montana Winter Guide

A colorful 36-page guide to Montana's exciting winter activities, highlighting downhill and cross-country ski areas, trails, and public lands.

Please note: The businesses listed here represent a summary of private campgrounds and outfitter services in Montana. Travel Montana is not a regulatory agency and, therefore, has no authority to inspect businesses or require that they meet certain standards for inclusion in this directory. Travel Montana has made every effort to ensure the accuracy of all information in the Recreation Guide, but changes sometimes occur after publication.

Montana Dept. of Fish, Wildlife and Parks

The Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks provides for the stewardship of the fish, wildlife, and recreational resources of



Montana, while contributing to the quality of life and increased opportunities for public enjoyment for present and future generations.

State Parks

Within the vast boundaries of Montana lie unique and wonderful treasures waiting to be explored and experienced by those seeking a oneness with nature and time. Montana's state parks offer the opportunity to watch your children catch their first fish, to set your imagination free as you visit some of our historical beginnings or view the fossilized remains of another time, to recreate in some of the most beautiful surroundings anywhere.

Either vigorous recreation or sheer relaxation can be accommodated in Montana's state parks and affiliated lands. There are sites within the State Park System that are less than an acre in size, while others cover thousands of acres. You can stay an hour, or a week. In short, whatever your reason for wanting to get away, Montana's state parks have something for everyone!



While entrance to many State Park System sites is free, a nominal fee is charged at developed facilities. State Park Passports, which allow the holder unlimited access to state parks for an entire year, are \$15 each. However, a special 20 percent discount is offered to those who purchase passports

between November 30 and February 14. A second passport can be purchased for half price. Passports make great holiday gifts for frequent users of our State Parks.

Fishing

Whether it's fishing for wild trout on one of Montana's famous "blue-ribbon" rivers and streams, trolling the depths of Flathead Lake for jumbo lake trout, or working submerged cover in Fort Peck Reservoir in hopes of hooking into a tackle-testing walleye, Montana is a magical place to fishermen throughout the world. One of the reasons Montana is so attractive to anglers is the diversity of fishing opportunities the state has to offer. Pristine headwater creeks, glacier-fed streams, rushing rivers, farm ponds, reservoirs and natural lakes provide opportunities for nearly every freshwater fishing interest and a variety of fish in the angler's creel. Fees and regulations are outlined in the current *Montana Fishing Regulations*, available by visiting any Department office or licensing agent.

Hunting

When it comes to wildlife diversity and hunting opportunities, Montana has

something to satisfy nearly everyone. There's something for the person who cherishes hunting a wide selection of big game animals in an incredible diversity of habitats; something for those who appreciate the state's sweeping scenery, its diverse biological systems, and its abundance of elbow room; as well as something for hunters that defies interpretation, such as the shrill bugle of a rutting bull elk on a high-country divide.

Information on the Big Sky Country's impressive array of hunting opportunities—as well as hunting rules, regulations, and licensing criteria—is available from all regional offices of the Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks, from the Department's headquarters in Helena, and from over 400 license agents across the state.

For more information, contact:

Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks
1420 East Sixth Ave.
Helena, MT 59620
444-2535

Hearing-impaired recreationists may call our telephone device for the deaf (TDD) at (406) 444-1200

Regional Headquarters

FWP-Region 1
490 North Meridian
Kalispell, MT 59901
752-5501

FWP-Region 3
1400 South 19th
Bozeman, MT 59715
994-4042

FWP-Region 5
2300 Lake Elmo Dr.
Billings, MT 59105
252-4654

FWP-Region 7
Rural Route 1, Box 2004
Miles City, MT 59301
232-4365

FWP-Region 2
3201 Spurgin Road
Missoula, MT 59801
542-5500

FWP-Region 4
4600 Giant Springs Road
P.O. Box 6609
Great Falls, MT 59406
454-3441

FWP-Region 6
Rural Route 1-4210
Glasgow, MT 59230
228-9347

FWP-Region 8
1404 8th Ave.
Helena, MT 59620
444-4720

Forest Service

U.S. Department of Agriculture

Recreation on our national forests comes in many varieties. Sightseeing to motorcycling, horseback riding to picnicking, hunting to snowshoeing,



cross-country skiing to kayaking, and fishing to exploring ghost towns and other historical sites await the outdoor enthusiast.

Montana's ten national forests display a wide variety of landscapes, from gentle rolling hills and isolated ponderosa pine woodlands to rugged mountaintops and steep timbered canyons. Almost seventeen million acres provide many resources—recreation, trees for harvest, forage for sheep and cattle, good fish habitat, food and shelter for wildlife, minerals, water, and wildlands for future generations.

One in every five acres of national forest land is designated as part of a protected Wilderness, abundant with Wild and Scenic Rivers and wildlife. Here, in relative solitude, visitors find areas maintained in their natural and undeveloped state, providing relief from the pressures of today's society.

Visitors can camp and picnic almost anywhere on the national forests in Montana. For those seeking more convenience, campgrounds usually contain a parking spur, table, fire-place, and toilets. Water is also provided in many areas. Some sites are accessible to the handicapped or disabled. Showers, laundry facilities, electrical hookups, and hot water are

MONTANA'S NATIONAL FORESTS AT A GLANCE

16,800,000 total acres
3,376,000 acres of classified Wilderness
61,000 acres of National Recreation Area
30,000 miles of road
13,500 miles of hiking trails
2,500 miles of winter trails
336 campgrounds and picnic areas
219 miles of Wild and Scenic Rivers
36 resorts and organizations
12 downhill ski areas

... providing an estimated
9,400,000 recreation visitor
days of use each year

not provided. Reservations are available for some popular campgrounds by calling Mistix at 1-800-283-CAMP. For the more venture-some, there are numerous isolated roadside and backcountry picnic areas and campsites. These do not contain improvements like toilets, tables, or fireplaces.

Campgrounds requiring a fee are signed and limitations on length of stay, if any, are posted. Horses and the shooting of firearms in developed campsites are prohibited.

For more information on the national forests in Montana, as well as the entire Northern Region, "A Guide to Your Northern Region National Forests" is available from the USDA Forest Service in Missoula.

Cabin Rentals

For those who seek the solitude of a true backcountry experience, the forest service has a few rustic cabins and lookouts for rent on a first-come, first-serve basis. Cabins are furnished with the bare basics (table, chairs, wood stove, and bunks). Bedding is not furnished. Cooking utensils, electricity, and piped-in water are generally not available. Expect to use outdoor privies. Forest Service personnel at the national forest in which the cabin is located will be able to tell you what you need to bring. For a "Recreational Cabin & Lookout Directory," write or call the USDA Forest Service in Missoula.

**USDA Forest Service
Northern Region**
Federal Building
P.O. Box 7669
Missoula, MT 59807
329-3511

Beaverhead National Forest
610 North Montana Street
Dillon, MT 59725
683-3900

Bitterroot National Forest
316 North Third Street
Hamilton, MT 59840
363-3131

Custer National Forest
2602 First Avenue North
P.O. Box 2556
Billings, MT 59103
657-6361

Deerlodge National Forest
Federal Building
P.O. Box 400
Butte, MT 59703
496-3400

Flathead National Forest
1935 Third Avenue East
Kalispell, MT 59901
715-5401

Gallatin National Forest
Federal Building
P.O. Box 130
Bozeman, MT 59771
587-6701

Helena National Forest
Federal Building, Room 334
301 South Park, Drawer 10014
Helena, MT 59626
449-5201

Kootenai National Forest
506 Highway 2 West
Libby, MT 59923
293-6211

**Lewis & Clark
National Forest**
1101 15th Street North
P.O. Box 869
Great Falls, MT 59403
791-7700

Lolo National Forest
Building 24, Fort Missoula
Missoula, MT 59801
329-3750

Bureau of Land Management

U.S. Department of the Interior

From the Rockies to the plains, the more than eight million acres of public land administered by the BLM hold an array of recreational treasures



and provide much of the habitat that contributes to Montana's excellent hunting, fishing, and wildlife watching opportunities.

Unlike the large blocks of land managed by other federal agencies such as the National Park Service or the Forest Service, BLM lands are scattered among hundreds of separate parcels. There is BLM land in nearly every Montana county. Detailed maps are available at all BLM offices.

Many undeveloped areas provide an opportunity to enjoy true solitude in a somewhat primitive setting. The BLM also has numerous fully developed recreation sites. The Ruby Creek, Red Mountain, South Madison, and West Madison campgrounds are nestled along the Madison River. The Holter Lake Recreation Complex sits north of Helena on the Missouri River. The Camp Creek and Montana Gulch campgrounds are tucked away in the scenic Little Rocky Mountains about 50 miles southeast of Malta.

Montana holds two firsts for BLM—the Pryor Mountain Wild Horse Range and Bear Trap Canyon Wilderness.

Pryor Mountain Wild Horse Range

The Pryor Mountain Wild Horse Range, which runs along the western rim of Bighorn Canyon in southern Carbon County, was the first designated range in the country. About 120 wild horses call the rugged Pryors home. The horses share the 34,000-acre range with a variety of big game that includes bighorn sheep and black bears.

Bear Trap Canyon

The Bear Trap Canyon Wilderness just north of Ennis was the first wilderness area in the nation managed by BLM. The canyon was formed by the Madison River as it cut north through the mountains. The canyon itself offers an exceptional day of hiking. In addition to blue ribbon trout fishing, the river

"The Bureau of Land Management is responsible for the stewardship of our public lands. It is committed to managing, protecting and improving these lands in a manner to serve the needs of the American people for all times. Management is based on the principles of multiple use and sustained yield of our nation's resources within a framework of environmental responsibility and scientific technology."

challenges even the most experienced white water floaters. Trail Creek Access Recreational Area, at the head of the canyon, is the first fishing, picnicking, and sightseeing park on the Madison fully handicapped accessible. Montana Power Company played an integral part in development of this site.

Humbug Spires

About 30 miles south of Butte, the Humbug Spires are a paradise for rock climbers. Nature seems to have created a series of eerie faces in the primitive area's giant granite monoliths. Square Butte, south of Great Falls, is another unusual geologic feature. Like Humbug Spires, this flat-topped formation is an outstanding example of undisturbed terrain that remains much as it was when settlers first arrived.

Garnet Ghost Town

Garnet Ghost Town is hidden deep in the Garnet Mountains about 40 miles east of Missoula. The town was born during a minor gold rush in the 1890s. Many of the original structures have been restored making Garnet one of the most authentic ghost towns in the state. Garnet is in the heart of the Garnet National Winter Trail System which offers exhilarating snowmobiling and cross-country skiing. Visitors can rent a rustic cabin for overnight stays.

For more information, contact:

BLM

Garnet Resource Area
3255 Ft. Missoula Rd.
Missoula, MT 59801
329-3914

Missouri Breaks

The upper Missouri River and the rough terrain that surrounds it, called the Missouri Breaks, has changed very little since the Lewis and Clark Expedition first explored the "Mighty Mo" in 1805. The 149 miles of the Missouri from Fort Benton to the James Kipp Recreation Site is managed by BLM as part of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. River travelers can stop at BLM's visitor center in Fort Benton for maps and information before heading downstream through the fascinating White Cliffs area.

The public lands managed by BLM are jointly owned by all Americans, so treat your lands with respect and try to leave them better than you found them.
For more information, contact:

BLM
Montana State Office
222 N. 32nd St.
Billings, MT 59107
255-2938

BLM
Butte District
P.O. Box 3388
Butte, MT 59702
494-5059

BLM
Miles City District
P.O. Box 940
Miles City, MT 59301
232-4331

BLM
Lewistown District
P.O. Box 1160
Lewistown, MT 59457
538-7461

Bureau of Reclamation

U.S. Department of the Interior

Created in 1902 to provide water for irrigation of the arid lands of the western U.S., Reclamation has recently placed new emphasis on providing



water-based recreation opportunities to the public. With 12 reservoirs to choose from, you'll find plenty of room to boat, fish, swim, or ski.

Reclamation projects generally feature diversion dams or storage reservoirs as integral features of their water delivery systems. Project reservoirs like Canyon Ferry Reservoir have developed into premier recreation sites providing hundreds of thousands of visitor days annually.

Many Reclamation Projects are managed for recreation by cooperating sister agencies and are listed in this guide by the cooperating agency. Canyon Ferry, as well as Pishkun and Willow Creek reservoirs and Intake Diversion Dam, are all managed for Reclamation by the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks. Gibson Reservoir, part of the Sun River Project, and Hungry Horse Reservoir are managed by the U.S. Forest Service. Lake Sherburne, in Glacier National Park, and Bighorn Lake, behind Yellowtail Dam in

southeastern Montana, are both managed for recreation by the National Park Service. Other-agency-administered recreation sites are subject to the rules and regulations that the other agency chooses to apply. Contact the cooperating agency for information about recreation at these other-agency-administered lakes.

Reclamation also directly manages several projects for recreation, including Clark Canyon Reservoir and Barretts Park near Dillon, Tiber Reservoir (Lake Elwell) near Chester, Fresno Reservoir near Havre, Nelson Reservoir near Malta, Anita Reservoir near Pompeys Pillar, and the Huntley Diversion Dam on the Yellowstone River. All Reclamation-administered recreation sites are free of charge for camping and day-use. While not plush, our recreation sites are devel-

oped to meet basic, minimum health and safety standards. Vault toilets are standard in all camping areas; drinking water is provided at many locations. All project reservoirs are accessible by concrete boat ramp. Clark Canyon and Tiber reservoirs feature public concessions that provide visitors with on-site gasoline, grocery supplies, and other amenities. Because of their relative remoteness, Reclamation-administered recreation sites provide more primitive camping and related recreation opportunities than other, more developed lakes and reservoirs.

For more information, contact:

Bureau of Reclamation
Montana Projects Office
P.O. Box 30137
Billings, MT 59107-0137
657-6202

Camping in our National Parks

Campsite availability is on a first-come, first-serve basis in Yellowstone and Glacier national parks. Reservations are not accepted (except for the Bridge Bay campground in Yellowstone).
For more information contact:

Glacier National Park
Attn: Superintendent
West Glacier, MT 59936
888-5441

Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190
Attn: Visitor's Services
(307) 344-7381

National Park Service
c/o Grant Kohrs Ranch
National Historic Site
Box 790
Deer Lodge, MT 59722
846-2070

Corps of Engineers Campgrounds

For more information on campsites managed by the Corps of Engineers, contact:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
P.O. Box 208
Fort Peck, MT 59923
526-3411

State Lands

As of March 1, 1992, hunting and fishing is allowed as "General Recreational Use" of certain school lands to holders of a State Lands Recreational Use License. These licenses are available from authorized Fish, Wildlife & Parks license agents at a cost of \$5.00 per person for anyone 12 years and older.

For more information, contact:

Department of State Lands
1625 11th Avenue
Helena, MT 59620
444-2074

Public Campgrounds

Public campgrounds are arranged alphabetically within each of Montana's six vacation countries. Most can be reached by car. After selecting a campground on the regional map, go to the narrative listing for more detailed information about the campground. The regional maps are for general reference only.

To learn more about the various state and federal agencies managing Montana campgrounds, see pages 3-6.

Legend

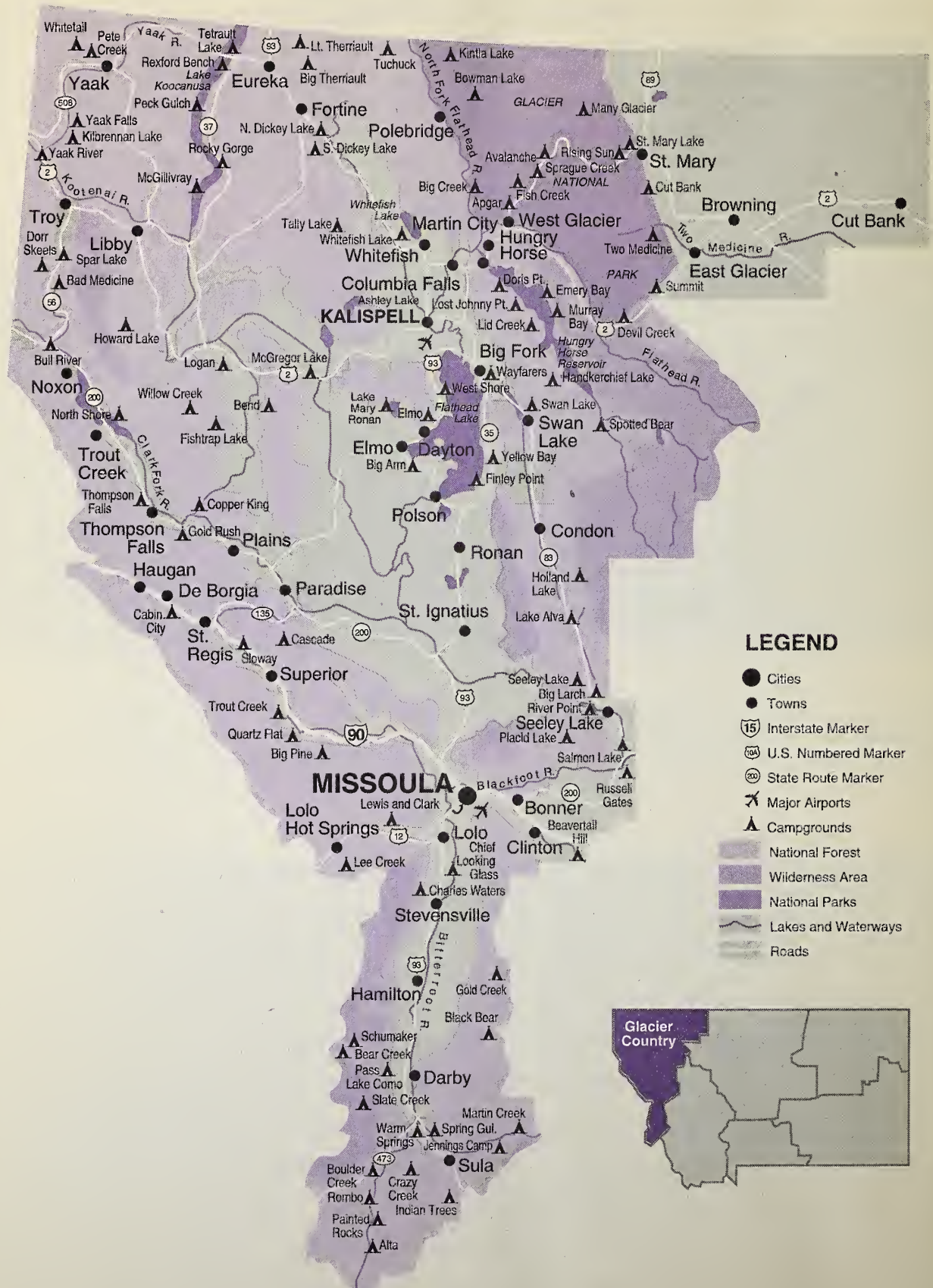
Name	Official site name
Agency	FS—U.S. Forest Service Campground FWP—Montana Dept. of Fish, Wildlife & Parks campground NPS—National Park Service campground BLM—U.S. Bureau of Land Management campground USBR—U.S. Bureau of Reclamation campground CE—Corps of Engineers campground
Season	The season during which the campground is open
Camping	Camping is allowed at this site Number indicates camping spaces available H—Hard-sided units only; no tents
Trailers	Trailer units allowed. Number indicates maximum length

Toilets	Toilets on site H—Handicapped access
Water	Drinking water on site
Boat	Type of boat ramp on site A—Hand launch B—4-wheel drive with trailer C—2-wheel drive with trailer
Fishing	A visitor can fish on site
Swimming	Designated swimming area on site
Trails	Trails on site B—Backpacking trails N—Nature/Interpretive trails
Stay Limit	Maximum length of stay in days
Fee	• There is a camping and/or day use fee
Handicapped	Special facilities for disabled visitors

Glacier Country

name / location	season	camping	trailers	toilets	water	boat launch	fishing	swimming	trails	stay limit	fee	handicapped
Alta FS, 4 mi. S of Darby on US 93, 22 mi. S on Cty. Rd. 473, 6 mi. S on Cty. Rd. 96	6/1-9/15	15	22'	•	•					10		
Bad Medicine FS, 3 mi. E of Troy on US 2, 18 mi. S on MT 56, 1 mi. W on Forest Rd. 398, 1 mi. N on Forest Rd. 7170	5/20-9/30	16	25'	•	•	C	•	•	•	14	•	
Beer Creek Pass FS, 7 mi. N of Darby on US 93, 18 mi. W on Forest Rd. 429	7/15-9/15	7	22'	•						10		
Beavertail Hill FWP, 26 mi. SE of Missoula on I-90 to milepost 130, Beavertail Hill Exit, ¼ mi. S on Cty. Rd.	5/1-9/30	25	•	•	•	A	•			14	•	
Bend FS, 5 mi. E of Thompson Falls on MT 200, 29 mi. NE on Forest Rd. 56	6/1-9/1	4	22'	•	•		•		•	14		
Big Creek FS, 21 mi. N of Columbia Falls on Forest Rd. 210	6/1-9/30	22	22'	H	•	A	•			14	•	•
Big Larch FS, 1 mi. NW of Seeley Lake on MT 83, .5 mi. on Forest Rd. 2199	5/15-9/15	50	32'	H	•	C	•	•	•	14	•	•
Big Pine FWP, 18 mi. E of Superior on I-90 to Fish Creek Exit, 5 mi. SW on Cty. Rd.	10	•	•	•			•			7		
Big Theriault FS, 7 mi. SE of Eureka on US 93, 3 mi. NE on Cty. Rd. 114, 11 mi. NE on Forest Rd. 114, 13 mi. W on Forest Rd. 319	7/1-11/15	10	22'	•	C	•			•	14		
Black Bear FS, 3 mi. S of Hamilton on US 93, 13 mi. E on MT 38	6/1-9/15	6	22'	•	•					10		
Boulder Creek FS, 4 mi. S of Darby on US 93, 13 mi. SW on Cty. Rd. 473, 1 mi. NW on Forest Rd. 5631	6/1-9/15	12	22'	•						10		
Bull River FS, 6 mi. NW of Noxon on MT 200	4/23-10/30	18	28'	•	•	C	•		•	14	•	
Cabin City FS, 3 mi. SE of Deborgia on I-90 (Exit 22), 2 mi. NE on Camel's Hump Rd., .2 mi. N on Forest Rd. 352	5/23-9/6	24	22'	•	•		•			10	•	
Cascade FS, 16 mi. E of St. Regis on MT 135	5/15-10/31	10	22'	H	•	A	•		•	14	•	
Charles Wetters FS, 2 mi. NW of Stevensville on Cty. Rd. 269, 4 mi. N on US 93, 2 mi. W on Cty. Rd. 22, 1 mi. W on Forest Rd. 1316	6/1-9/30	20	22'	H	•				•	14	•	•
Chief Looking Glass FWP, 14 mi. S of Missoula on US 93 to milepost 77, 1 mi. E on Cty. Rd.	5/1-9/30	25	•	•	•	A	•			7	•	
Copper King FS, 5 mi. E of Thompson Falls on MT 200, 4 mi. NE on Forest Rd. 56	6/1-9/30	5	16'	•			•			14		
Crezy Creek FS, 5 mi. NW of Sula on US 93, 1 mi. SW on Cty. Rd. 100, 3 mi. SW on Forest Rd. 370	6/1-9/15	14	22'	•	•				•	14		
Devil Creek FS, 45 mi. SE of West Glacier on US 2	6/1-9/15	12	22'	•	•				•	14		
Doris Point FS, 8 mi. SE of Hungry Horse on Forest Rd. 895	6/15-9/30	18	•				•	•		14		
Dorr Skeels FS, 3 mi. SE of Troy on US 2, 14 mi. S on MT 56, 1 mi. W on Forest Rd. 1117	5/20-9/15	8	22'	•			•	•	•	14	•	
Emery Bay FS, 6 mi. SE of Martin City on Forest Rd. 38	6/1-9/15	8	22'	•	•	C	•	•		14		
Fishtrap Lake FS, 5 mi. E of Thompson Falls on MT 200, 13 mi. NE on Forest Rd. 56, 15 mi. NW on Forest Rd. 516, 2 mi. W on Forest Rd. 7593	6/1-9/30	11	32'	•	•	C	•		•	14		

Glacier Country



Glacier Country

name / location

FLATHEAD LAKE STATE PARK

Big Arm FWP, 15 mi. N of Polson on US 93

Elmo FWP, 19 mi. N of Polson on US 93

Finley Point FWP, 9 mi. N of Polson on MT 35, 4 mi. W

Wayfarer FWP, ½ mi. W of Bigfork

West Shora FWP, 6 mi. S of Lakeside on US 93

GLACIER NATIONAL PARK (season dates subject to change)

Apgar NPS, 1 mi. NW of West Entrance on Going-to-the-Sun Rd.

Avalanche NPS, 5 mi. NE of Laka McDonald Lodge on Going-to-the-Sun Rd.

Bowman Lake NPS, 7 mi. NE of Polabridge

Cut Bank NPS, 15 mi. S of St. Mary on US 89, 5 mi. W on primitive road

Fish Creek NPS, 5 mi. NW of West Glacier on Camas Rd.

Kintla Lake NPS, 15 mi. N of Polabridge on North Fork Rd.

Meny Glacier NPS, 10 mi. W of Babb

Rising Sun NPS, 6 mi. W of St. Mary on Going-to-the-Sun Rd.

Spreague Creek NPS, 8 mi. NE of West Glacier on Going-to-the-Sun Rd.

St. Mary Lake NPS, 1 mi. W of St. Mary on Going-to-the-Sun Rd.

Two Medicine NPS, 3 mi. N of East Glacier Park on MT 49, 12 mi. W

Gold Creek FS, 1 mi. S of Stevensville on Cty. Rd. 269, 11 mi. SE on Cty. Rd. 372, 4 mi. S on Forest Rd. 312

Gold Rush FS, 9 mi. S of Thompson Falls on Forest Rd. 352

Handkarchief Lake FS, 35 mi. SE of Hungry Horse on Forest Rd. 895, 2 mi. NW on Forest Rd. 897

Holland Lake FS, 9 mi. SE of Condon on MT 83, 3 mi. E on Forest Rd. 44

Howard Lake FS, 12 mi. S of Libby on US 2, 12 mi. SW on Forest Rd. 231

Indian Trees FS, 6 mi. S of Sula on US 93, 1 mi. SW on Forest Rd. 729

Jannings Camp FS, 1 mi. W of Sula on US 93, 10 mi. NE on Cty. Rd. 472

Kilbrannen Lake FS, 3 mi. NW of Troy on US 2, 10 mi. NE on Forest Rd. 2394

Lake Alva FS, 13 mi. NW of Sealey Lake on MT 83

Lake Como FS, 5 mi. N of Darby on US 93, 1 mi. SW on Cty. Rd. 550, 2 mi. W on Forest Rd.

Lake Mary Ronan FWP, US 93 at Dayton, 7 mi. NW

Lee Creek FS, 26 mi. W of Lolo on US 12

Lawis & Clark FS, 16 mi. W of Lolo on US 12

Lid Creek FS, 15 mi. SE of Hungry Horse on Forest Rd. 895

Little Tharriault FS, 7 mi. SE of Eureka on US 93, 3 mi. NE on Cty. Rd. 114, 11 mi. NE on Forest Rd. 114, 13 mi. W on Forest Rd. 319

Logan FWP, 45 mi. W of Kalispell on US 2

Lost Johnny Point FS, 9 mi. SE of Hungry Horse on Forest Rd. 895

McGillivray FS, 15 mi. E of Libby on MT 37, 10 mi. N on Forest Rd. 228

McGregor Lake FS, 32 mi. W of Kalispell on US 2

Martin Creek FS, 1 mi. W of Sula on US 93, 4 mi. NE on Cty. Rd. 472, 12 mi. NE on Forest Rd. 80

Murray Bay FS, 22 mi. SE of Martin City on Forest Rd. 38

North Dickay Lake FS, 13 mi. SE of Eureka on US 93

North Shore FS, 2 mi. NW of Trout Creek on MT 200

Painted Rocks FWP, 20 mi. S of Hamilton on US 93, 23 mi. SW on Hwy 473

Pack Gulch FS, 23 mi. SW of Eureka on MT 37

Pata Creek FS, 7 mi. NW of Troy on US 2, 12 mi. NE on MT 508, 12 mi. NE on Forest Rd. 92

Pleclad Lake FWP, 3 mi. S of Seeley Lake on MT 83, 3 mi. W on Cty. Rd.

Quartz Flet FS, 11 mi. E of Superior near I-90 at rest area

Raxford Bench FS, 7 mi. SW of Eureka on MT 37 (Reservations: 800-283-CAMP)

River Point FS, 3 mi. S of Seeley Lake on MT 83, 2 mi. NW on Cty. Rd. 70

Rocky Gorge FS, 30 mi. SW of Eureka on MT 37

Rombo FS, 4 mi. S of Darby on US 93, 18 mi. SW on Cty. Rd. 473

Russell Gatas Memorial FWP, 35 mi. E of Bonner on MT 200 to milepost 35

Salmon Lake FWP, 5 mi. S of Seeley Lake on MT 83

Schumaker FS, 7 mi. N of Darby on US 93, 2 mi. W on Cty. Rd., 16 mi. W on Forest Rd. 429, 2 mi. N on Forest Rd. 5505

Sealey Lake FS, .33 mi. S of Seeley Lake on MT 83, 3 mi. NW on Cty. Rd. 70

Slata Creek FS, 4 mi. S of Darby on US 93, 22 mi. on Cty. Rd. 473, 2 mi. S on Cty. Rd. 96

Slowey FS, 7 mi. SE of St. Regis on I-90, 3 mi. W on Dry Creek Rd.

South Dickay Lake FS, 20 mi. SE of Eureka on US 93

Spar Lake FS, 3 mi. SE of Troy on US 2, 16 mi. S on Forest Rd. 384

Spotted Bear FS, 55 mi. SE of Martin City on Forest Rd. 38

Spring Gulch FS, 5 mi. NW of Sula on US 93

Summit FS, 13 mi. SW of East Glacier on US 2

Swen Lake FS, 1 mi. NW of Swan Lake on MT 83

Telly Lake FS, 6 mi. W of Whitefish on US 93, 15 mi. W on Forest Rd. 113

Tatrault Lake FWP, 4½ mi. NW of Eureka on MT 37, milepost 65, 3 mi. N on Cty. Rd.

Thompson Falls FWP, 1 mi. NW of Thompson Falls on MT 200

season

camping

trailers

toilets

water

boat launch

fishing

swimming

trails

stay limit

fee

handicapped

5/1-9/30

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Public Campgrounds

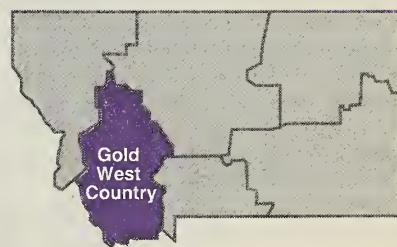
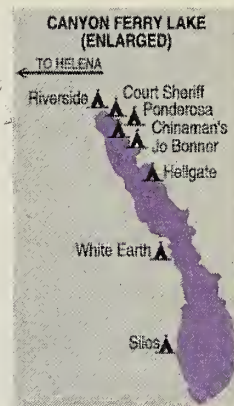
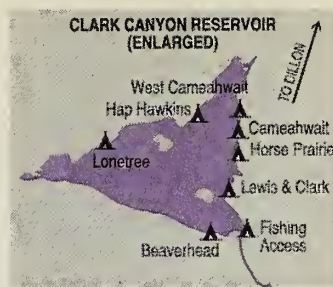
Glacier Country

name / location	season	camping	trailers	toilets	water	boat launch	fishing	swimming	trails	stay limit	fee	handicapped
Trout Craak FS, 5 mi. SE of Superior on MT 269, 3 mi. SW on Forest Rd. 250	5/23-9/6	12	32'	•	•				•	14		
Tuchuck FS, 53 mi. N of Martin City on Forest Rd. 210, 10 mi. W on Forest Rd. 114	6/15-9/30	7	22'	•			•			14		
Wermes Springs FS, 5 mi. NW of Sula on US 93, 1 mi. SW on Cty. Rd. 100	5/20-9/30	15	22'	•	•					14	•	
Whitefish Lake FWP, 1 mi. W of Whitefish on US 93	All Year	25	30'	•	•	C	•	•		7	•	
Whitetail FS, 7 mi. NW of Troy on US 2, 12 mi. NE on MT 508, 10 mi. NE on Forest Rd. 92	6/1-9/30	12	22'	•			•		•	14		
Willow Creek FS, 19 mi. E of Trout Creek on Forest Rd. 154	6/1-9/30	4	16'	•			•		•	14		
Yaak Falls FS, 10 mi. NW of Troy on US 2, 6 mi. NE on MT 508	5/20-9/30	7	22'	•			•		•	14		
Yaak River FS, 7 mi. NW of Troy on US 2	5/20-9/30	43	22'	•	•		•		•	14	•	
Yellow Bay FWP, 15 mi. N of Polson on MT 35, milepost 17	5/1-9/30	25	•	H	•	C	•	•		7	•	

Gold West Country

name / location	season	camping	trailers	toilets	water	boat launch	fishing	swimming	trails	stay limit	fee	handicapped
Aspen Grova FS, 7 mi. E of Lincoln on MT 200	6/1-9/30	25	22'	•	•	•				14	•	
Bannack FWP, 5 mi. S of Dillon on I-15, 21 mi. W on MT 278, 4 mi. S on Cty. Rd.	5/1-9/30	20	•	•	•	•				14	•	
Basin Canyon FS, 4 mi. NW of Basin on Forest Rd. 172	5/15-9/15	4	32'	•		•				14		•
Baavar Dam FS, 7 mi. W of Butte on I-90, 18 mi. S on I-15, 6 mi. W on Forest Rd. 961	5/15-11/15	24	22'	•	•	•			•	14		
Benchmark FS, 14 mi. W on Cty. Rd. 235, 16 mi. SW on Forest Rd. 235	6/20-11/25	25	22'	•	•				•	14	•	
Big Nelson FS, 8 mi. E of Ovando on MT 200, 11 mi. NE on Forest Rd. 500	6/15-9/15	4	16'	•		A	•		•	14		
Blitterroot Flat FS, 5 mi. SE of Clinton on I-90 to Rock Creek Exit, 24 mi. S on Forest Rd. 102	5/20-9/30	15	32'	•	•	•				14		
Black Sandy FWP, 7 mi. N of Helena on I-15 to Lincoln Rd. Exit, 4 mi. E on Hwy 453, 3 mi. N	5/1-9/30	40		H	•	C	•	•		•	•	
Branham Lakas FS, 6 mi. E of Sheridan on Cty. Rd. 1111, 5 mi. E on Forest Rd. 1112, 3 mi. N on Forest Rd. 1110	7/1-9/15	6	22'	•		C	•		•	14		
Cable Mountain FS, 12 mi. S of Philipsburg on MT 1, 3 mi. N on Forest Rd. 676, 1 mi. S on Forest Rd. 8617	6/15-9/30	11	22'	•	•	•				14		
Chinaman's Gulch FWP, Canyon Ferry, 9 mi. E of Helena on US 287, 10 mi. NE on Hwy 284	All Year	40	•	•	•	C	•	•		14	•	
Clark Canyon Reservoir USBR, 20 mi. S of Dillon on I-15 (Summer concession)			•									
Barratts Park USBR, 5 mi. S on I-15	All Year	•	•	H	•	B	•			14		
Beavaraad USBR, at Clark Canyon Reservoir	All Year	•	•	H	•	C	•			14		
Camaahwait USBR, at Reservoir	All Year	•	•	H	•	•				14		
Fishing Access USBR, at Reservoir	All Year	•	•	H	•	C	•			14		
Hap Hawkins USBR, at Reservoir	All Year	•	•	H	•	•				14		
Horsa Prairie USBR, at Reservoir	All Year	•	•	H	•	C	•			14		
Lewis & Clark USBR, at Reservoir	All Year	•	•	H	•	•				14		
Lonatraa USBR, at Reservoir	All Year	•	•	H	•	B	•			14		
Wast Camaahwait USBR, at Reservoir	All Year	•	•	H	•	•				14		
Cliff Point FS, 8 mi. N of West Yellowstone on US 191, 27 mi. W on US 287, 6 mi. SW on Forest Rd. 5721	6/1-9/15	6	16'	•	•	C				14	•	
Coppar Creek FS, 7 mi. E of Lincoln on MT 200, 9 mi. NW on Forest Rd. 330	6/15-9/30	20	22'	•	•	•				14	•	
Copper Craek FS, 6 mi. S of Philipsburg on MT 1, 9 mi. SW on MT 38, 10 mi. S on Forest Rd. 5106	6/1-10/31	7	32'	•	•	•				14		
Court Shariff FWP, Canyon Ferry, 9 mi. E of Helena on US 287, 9 mi. NE on Hwy 284	All Year	25	•	•	•	B	•	•		14	•	
Cromwell Dixon FS, 17 mi. SW of Helena on US 12	6/1-9/15	14	22'	•	•					15	•	
Dalles FS, 5 mi. SE of Clinton on I-90 to Rock Creek Exit, 15 mi. S on Forest Rd. 102	All Year	10	32'	•	•	•			•	14		
Departura Point FWP, Holter Lake, 3 mi. N of Wolf Creek on Rec. Rd., 8 mi. SE on Cty. Rd.	All Year	10	•	•		A	•			14	•	
Dickie Bridga BLM, 10 mi. W of Divide on MT 43	All Year	5	24'	•	•	•				14		
Dinnar Station FS, 12 mi. N of Dillon on I-15, 12 mi. NW on Birch Creek Rd.	5/15-9/15	7	16'	H	•	•			•	14		
Divida Bridga BLM, 1 mi. W of Divide on MT 43	All Year	10	24'	H	•	C	•		B	14		
East Bank BLM, 17 mi. W of Divide on MT 43	All Year	10	24'	H	•	C	•	•		14		
East Craak FS, 8 mi. SW of Lima on Cty. Rd. 1791, 1 mi. S on Forest Rd. 3929, 1 mi. SE on Forest Rd. 3930	5/15-10/1	4	16'	•	•					14		
East Fork FS, 6 mi. S of Philipsburg on MT 1, 6 mi. SW on US 38, 5 mi. SE on Forest Rd. 3, 1 mi. SE on Forest Rd. 9349	6/1-9/30	7	32'			•				14		
Eight Milla Ford FWP, 2 mi. W of Ennis on MT 287, 3 mi. S on Cty. Rd.	5/1-9/30	20	•	•	•	C	•			14	•	
Ennis FWP, US 287 E of Ennis, milepost 48	All Year	20	•	•	•	C	•			14	•	
Filnt Craek FS, 8 mi. S of Philipsburg on MT 1, 1 mi. SE on Forest Rd. 1090	5/1-10/31	10	32'	H	•	•				14		
Grasshopper FS, 4 mi. S of Dillon on I-15, 27 mi. W on MT 278, 13 mi. N on Wise River Rd.	6/15-9/15	23	16'	•	•	•			•	14		
Grizzly FS, 5 mi. SE of Clinton on I-90 to Rock Creek Exit, 11 mi. S on Forest Rd. 102	All Year	18	32'	•	•	•			•	14		
Harrison Laka FWP, 5 mi. E of Harrison on Cty. Rd.	All Year	25	•	•		B				14	•	
Harry's Flat FS, 5 mi. SE of Clinton on I-90 to Rock Creek Exit, 18 mi. S on Forest Rd. 102	All Year	18	32'	•	•	•				14		
Hallgata FWP, Canyon Ferry, 9 mi. E of Helena on US 287, 18 mi. NE on Hwy 284	All Year	130	•	H	•	C	•	•		14	•	
Hilltop FS, 8 mi. N of West Yellowstone on US 191, 27 mi. W on US 287, 6 mi. SW on Forest Rd. 5721	6/1-9/15	18	32'	•	•	•				14	•	
Holter Lake BLM, 2 mi. N of Wolf Creek on Rec. Rd., across bridge, 3 mi. E on Cty. Rd.	4/15-10/31	40	35'	•	•	C	•	•		14	•	
Homa Gulch FS, 20 mi. NW of Augusta on Sun River Canyon Rd., 2 mi. W on Forest Rd. 108	5/15-11/15	15	16'	•	•	•				14	•	

Gold West Country



LEGEND

- Cities
- Towns
- 15 Interstate Marker
- 90 U.S. Numbered Marker
- 200 State Route Marker
- ✈ Major Airports
- ▲ Campgrounds
- National Forest
- Wilderness Area
- National Parks
- Lakes and Waterways
- Roads

Public Campgrounds

Gold West Country

name / location	season	camping	trailers	toilets	water	boat launch	fishing	swimming	trails	stay limit	fee	handicapped
Humburg Spires BLM, I-15 S of Divide, Moose Creek Exit, 3 mi. NE on Moose Creek Rd.	All Year	•	24'	•	•	•	•	•	B	14	•	•
Indian Road FWP, 1 mi. N of Townsend on US 287, milepost 75	All Year	25	•	•	•	C	•	•	•	14	•	•
Jo Bonner FWP, Canyon Ferry, 9 mi. E of Helena on US 287, 12 mi. NE on Hwy 284	All Year	•	•	•	•	B	•	•	•	14	•	•
Kading FS, 1 mi. E of Elliston on US 12, 4 mi. S on Cty. Rd., 9 mi. SW on Forest Rd. 227	6/1-9/15	14	22'	•	•	•	•	•	•	15	•	•
Ladysmith FS, 4 mi. W of Basin on MT 91, 1 mi. W on Forest Rd. 82	5/15-9/15	5	16'	•	•	•	•	•	•	14	•	•
Lewis & Clark Caverns FWP, 19 mi. W of Three Forks on MT 2, milepost 271	All Year	50	•	•	•	•	•	•	N	14	•	•
Little Joe FS, 20 mi. SW of Wise River on Wise River/Polaris Rd.	6/15-9/30	4	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	15	•	•
Lodgepole FS, 10 mi. S of Philipsburg on MT 1, NE on Forest Rd. 9465	6/15-10/31	31	32'	•	•	C	•	•	•	14	•	•
Lodgepole FS, 13 mi. SW of Wise River on Wise River/Polaris Rd.	6/15-9/30	11	16'	•	•	•	•	•	•	15	•	•
Log Gulch FWP, Holter Lake, 2 mi. N of Wolf Creek on Rec. Rd., across bridge, 7 mi. SE on Cty. Rd.	All Year	80	•	•	•	C	•	•	•	14	•	•
Lost Creek FWP, 1½ mi. E of Anaconda on MT 1, milepost 5, 2 mi. N on Hwy 273, 6 mi. W	5/1-11/30	30	•	H	•	•	•	•	N	14	•	•
Lowland FS, 9 mi. NE of Butte on I-15, 7 mi. W on Forest Rd. 442	5/15-11/1	7	22'	•	•	•	•	•	•	14	•	•
Madison River FS, 24 mi. S of Cameron on US 287, 1 mi SW on Cty. Rd. 8381, 1 mi. S on Forest Rd. 8381	6/1-9/15	10	32'	•	•	•	•	•	•	14	•	•
Maidenrock FWP, I-15 at Melrose, milepost 93, 6 mi. W & N on Cty. Rd.	•	30	•	•	•	A	•	•	•	14	•	•
May Creek FS, 17 mi. N of Wisdom on MT 43	7/4-9/15	21	32'	•	•	•	•	•	•	15	•	•
Mill Creek FS, 7 mi. E of Sheridan on Mill Creek Rd.	6/1-10/31	13	22'	•	•	•	•	•	•	14	•	•
Miner Lake FS, 19 mi. S of Wisdom at Jackson on MT 278, 7 mi. W on Cty. Rd. 182, 3 mi. W on Forest Rd. 182	7/4-11/30	18	32'	•	•	C	•	•	•	15	•	•
Mono Creek FS, 23 mi. SW of Wise River on Wise River/Polaris Rd.	6/15-9/30	5	16'	•	•	•	•	•	•	15	•	•
Moose Creek FS, 10 mi. W of Helena on US 12, 4 mi. SW on Rimini Rd.	6/1-9/15	11	22'	•	•	•	•	•	•	15	•	•
Mormon Gulch FS, 4 mi. W of Basin on MT 91, 1 mi. W on Forest Rd. 82	5/15-9/15	11	32'	•	•	•	•	•	•	14	•	•
Mortimer Gulch FS, 20 mi. NW of Augusta on Sun River Canyon Rd., 7 mi. NW on Forest Rd. 108	5/25-11/15	28	22'	•	•	•	•	•	•	14	•	•
Norton FS, 5 mi. SE of Clinton on I-90 to Rock Creek Exit, 11 mi. S on Forest Rd. 102	All Year	10	16'	•	•	•	•	•	•	14	•	•
Orofino FS, 13 mi. SE of Deer Lodge on Forest Rd. 82	6/15-9/1	10	22'	•	•	•	•	•	•	14	•	•
Park Lake FS, 1 mi. N of Clancy on Cty. Rd. 426, 6 mi. W on Forest Rd. 4000, 2 mi. SW on Forest Rd. 426, 5 mi. W on Forest Rd.	•	•	•	•	•	A	•	•	•	14	•	•
Philipsburg Bay FS, 9 mi. S of Philipsburg on MT 1, 2 mi. SW on Forest Rd. 406, 1 mi. SE on Forest Rd. 9480	6/15-9/30	69	32'	•	•	C	•	•	•	14	•	•
Pigeon Creek FS, 16 mi. W of Whitehall on MT 10, 5 mi. S on Forest Rd. 668	5/15-9/15	6	16'	•	•	•	•	•	•	14	•	•
Pikes Gulch FS, 20 mi. NE of Helena on Cty. Rd. 280, 14 mi. N on Cty. Rd., 3 mi. NE on Cty. Rd., 10 mi. NE on Forest Rd. 138	6/1-9/30	5	16'	•	•	•	•	•	•	15	•	•
Piney FS, 9 mi. S of Philipsburg on MT 1, 2 mi. SW on Forest Rd. 406, 1 mi. SE on Forest Rd. 505	6/15-9/30	36	32'	•	•	C	•	•	•	14	•	•
Ponderosa FWP, Canyon Ferry, 9 mi. E of Helena on US 287, 9 mi. NE on Hwy 284	All Year	40	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	14	•	•
Porcupine FS, 13 mi. SW of Helena on US 12	6/1-9/15	18	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	15	•	•
Potosi FS, 3 mi. SE of Pony on Cty. Rd. 1601, 5 mi. SW on Forest Rd. 1601	6/15-9/15	15	32'	•	•	•	•	•	•	14	•	•
Racetrack FS, 3 mi. E of Anaconda on MT 1, 7 mi. N on MT 48, 7 mi. NW on Cty. Rd., 2 mi. NW on Forest Rd. 169	6/15-11/15	13	16'	•	•	•	•	•	•	14	•	•
Red Mountain BLM, 9 mi. NE of Norris on MT 84	All Year	11	35'	•	•	A	•	•	B	14	•	•
Reservoir Lake FS, 17 mi. S of Dillon on I-15, 20 mi. W on MT 324, 19 mi. N on Bloody Dick Rd.	6/15-9/15	16	16'	•	•	C	•	•	•	15	•	•
Riverside FWP, Canyon Ferry, 9 mi. E of Helena on US 287, 9 mi. NE on Hwy 284, 1 mi. NW on Forest Rd. 224 toward power plant	All Year	•	•	•	•	C	•	•	•	14	•	•
Ruby Reservoir BLM, S of Twin Bridges on MT 287 to Alder, S to E Shore of Ruby River Reservoir	All Year	10	35'	•	•	C	•	•	•	14	•	•
Seymour FS, 11 mi. W of Wise River on MT 43, 4 mi. N on MT 274, 8 mi. NW on Forest Rd. 934	6/15-10/15	17	16'	•	•	•	•	•	•	15	•	•
Silos FWP, Canyon Ferry, 7 mi. N of Townsend on US 287, milepost 70, 1 mi. E on Cty. Rd.	All Year	80	•	H	•	C	•	•	•	14	•	•
Skidway FS, 23 mi. E of Townsend on US 12, 2 mi. S on Forest Rd. 4042	6/15-9/30	11	32'	•	•	•	•	•	•	14	•	•
South Fork FS, 31 mi. W of Augusta on Benchmark Rd. 235	6/1-9/15	7	32'	•	•	•	•	•	•	14	•	•
South Madison BLM, 15 mi. S of Cameron on US 287, 1 mi. W	All Year	11	35'	•	•	C	•	•	•	14	•	•
Spillway FS, 6 mi. S of Philipsburg on MT 1, 6 mi. SW on MT 38, 5 mi. SE on Forest Rd. 672, 1 mi. S on Forest Rd. 5141	5/15-11/30	13	22'	•	•	•	•	•	•	14	•	•
Spring Hill FS, 11 mi. NW of Anaconda on MT 1	6/15-9/1	16	22'	•	•	•	•	•	•	14	•	•
Squaw Rock FS, 14 mi. W of Philipsburg on Cty. Rd. 348, 5 mi. W on Cty. Rd. 102, 1 mi. SW on Forest Rd. 9346	6/1-10/15	10	32'	•	•	•	•	•	•	14	•	•
Toll Mountain FS, 13 mi. W of Whitehall on MT 10, 2 mi. N on Forest Rd. 9315	5/15-9/15	14	22'	•	•	•	•	•	•	14	•	•
Toston Dam BLM, 13 mi. S of Townsend on US 287, E to Toston Dam	All Year	10	24'	•	•	C	•	•	•	14	•	•
Twin Lakes FS, 7 mi. S of Wisdom on MT 278, 8 mi. W on Cty. Rd. 1290, 5 mi. S on Forest Rd. 945, 6 mi. SW on Forest Rd. 183	7/4-11/30	17	32'	•	•	C	•	•	•	15	•	•
Valley Garden FWP, US 287 ¼ mi. S of Ennis to milepost 48, 2 mi. N on Cty. Rd.	All Year	•	•	•	•	C	•	•	•	14	•	•
Varney Bridge FWP, 2 mi. W of Ennis on US 287, 10 mi. S on Cty. Rd.	All Year	•	•	•	•	C	•	•	•	14	•	•
Vigilante FS, 20 mi. NE of Helena on Cty. Rd. 280, 12 mi. NE on Cty. Rd.	6/1-9/15	11	16'	H	•	•	•	•	•	15	•	•
Wade Lake FS, 8 mi. N of West Yellowstone on US 191, 27 mi. W on US 287, 6 mi. SW on Forest Rd. 5721	6/1-9/15	27	16'	H	•	C	•	•	•	14	•	•
Warm Springs FS, 11 mi. NW of Anaconda on MT 1, 2 mi. N on Forest Rd. 170	6/15-9/1	6	16'	•	•	•	•	•	•	14	•	•
West Fork FS, 24 mi. S of Cameron on US 287, 1 mi. W on Forest Rd. 8381	6/1-9/15	6	16'	•	•	•	•	•	•	14	•	•
West Madison BLM, 7 mi. S of Cameron on US 287, cross McAttee Bridge, 3 mi. S on BLM Rd.	All Year	22	35'	•	•	•	•	•	•	14	•	•
White Earth FWP, 13 mi. N of Townsend on US 287 to Winston, 5 mi. E on Cty. Rd.	All Year	40	•	•	•	C	•	•	•	14	•	•
Whitehouse FS, 4 mi. W of Basin on MT 91, 7 mi. W on Forest Rd. 82	6/1-9/15	4	32'	•	•	•	•	•	•	14	•	•
Willow FS, 14 mi. SW of Wise River on Wise River/Polaris Rd.	6/15-9/30	9	16'	•	•	•	•	•	•	15	•	•
Wood Lake FS, 24 mi. W of Augusta on Benchmark Rd. 235	6/1-11/15	8	22'	•	•	•	•	•	•	14	•	•



Leave forests and parks clean.

Charlie Russell Country

Public Campgrounds

name / location	season	camping	trailers	toilets	water	boat launch	fishing	swimming	trails	stay limit	fee	handicapped
Ackley Lake FWP, 23 mi. W of Lewistown at Hobson, milepost 58, 5 mi. S on Hwy 400, 2 mi. SW on Cty. Rd.	All Year	18	•	•	•	C	•	•	•	14	•	•
Aspen FS, 6 mi. N of Neihart on US 89	6/1-10/15	6	22'	H	•	•	•	•	•	14	•	•
Cave Mountain FS, 5 mi. N of Choteau on US 89, 23 mi. W on Forest Rd. 144	5/25-11/15	14	16'	•	•	•	•	•	•	14	•	•
Coalbanks BLM, 11 mi. S of Big Sandy on US 87, S at sign for Upper Missouri Wild & Scenic River	All Year	10	24'	•	•	C	•	•	•	14	•	•
Crystal Lake FS, 9 mi. W of Lewistown on US 87, 16 mi. S on Cty. Rd., 8.5 mi. S on Forest Rd. 275	6/15-9/15	28	22'	H	•	•	•	•	•	14	•	•
Dry Wolf FS, 20 mi. SW of Stanford on Cty. Rd., 6 mi. SW on Forest Rd. 251	6/25-10/15	26	32'	•	•	•	•	•	•	14	•	•
Fresno Reservoir USBR W of Havre on US 2, 2 mi. N on Cty. Rd.	All Year			H	•	C	•	•	•	14	•	•
Fresno Beach USBR, at Reservoir	All Year	•	•	H	•	•	•	•	•	14	•	•
Kiehns USBR, at Reservoir	All Year	•	•	H	•	•	•	•	•	14	•	•
Kremlin USBR, at Reservoir	All Year	•	•	H	•	•	•	•	•	14	•	•
River Run USBR, at Reservoir	All Year	•	•	H	•	•	•	•	•	14	•	•
Grasshopper Creek FS, 7 mi. E of White Sulphur Springs on US 12, 4 mi. S on Forest Rd. 211	All Year	10	22'	•	•	•	•	•	•	14	•	•
Indian Hill FS, 12 mi. W of Hobson on MT 239, 12 mi. SW on Cty. Rd., 3 mi. SW on Forest Rd. 487	5/20-10/15	7	22'	•	•	•	•	•	•	14	•	•

Charlie Russell Country



Public Campgrounds

Charlie Russell Country

name / location	season	camping	trailers	toilets	water	boat launch	fishing	swimming	trails	stay limit	fee	handicapped
James Kipp BLM, 28 mi. N of Lewistown on US 191 at Fred Robinson Bridge	All Year	15	35'	•	•	C	•	•	•	14	•	
Judith River BLM, 65 mi. N of Lewistown on US 191 & Rt. 236 to Judith Landing, N side of Missouri River	All Year	10	24'	•	•	C	•	•	•	14	•	
Jumping Creek FS, 22 mi. NE of White Sulphur Springs on US 89	5/15-12/1	14	22'	•	•	•	•	•	•	14	•	
Kings Hill FS, 9 mi. S of Neihart on US 89	7/1-9/30	14	22'	H	•	•	•	•	•	14	•	
Lake Elwall (Tibar Reservoir) USBR, 12 mi. S of Chester on MT 223, 7 mi. W on Cty. Rd. (Summer Concession)												
Island Area USBR, at Reservoir	All Year	•	•	H	•	C	•	•	•	14	•	
North Bootlegger USBR, at Reservoir	All Year	•	•	•	•	A	•	•	•	14	•	
Sanford Park USBR, at Reservoir	All Year	•	•	H	•	B	•	•	•	14	•	
South Bootlegger USBR, at Reservoir	All Year	•	•	H	•	C	•	•	•	14	•	
VFW Campground USBR, at Reservoir	All Year	•	•	H	•	C	•	•	•	14	•	
Willow Creek USBR, at Reservoir	All Year	•	•	H	•	C	•	•	•	14	•	
Logging Creek FS, 3 mi. N of Monarch on US 89, 10 mi. E on Forest Rd. 839, 6 mi. SW on Forest Rd. 253	5/15-10/15	24	22'	H	•	•	•	•	•	14	•	
Many Pines FS, 4 mi. S of Neihart on US 89	5/15-12/1	25	22'	•	•	•	•	•	•	14	•	
Moosa FS, 18 mi. N of White Sulphur Springs on US 89, 6 mi. W on Forest Rd. 119, 3 mi. N on Forest Rd. 204	6/1-10/15	9	22'	•	•	•	•	•	•	14	•	
Richardson Creek FS, 7 mi. E of White Sulphur Springs on US 12, 5 mi. S on Forest Rd. 211	6/1-10/15	4	16'	•	•	•	•	•	•	14	•	
Spring Creek FS, 33 mi. W of Harlowton on US 12, 4 mi. N on Forest Rd. 274	5/15-11/30	10	22'	•	•	•	•	•	•	14	•	
Thain Creek FS, 6 mi. E of Great Falls on US 89, 13 mi. E on MT 228, 16 mi. E on Cty. Rd. 121, 2 mi. E on Forest Rd. 8840	5/25-10/15	15	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	14	•	
West Fork FS, 6 mi. N of Choteau on US 89, 33 mi. NW on Cty. Rd. 144 (Wilderness access)	6/1-11/15	11	•	•	•	•	•	•	B	14	•	
Woodhawk Bottom BLM, 38 mi. N of Lewistown on US 191 and Rt. 236 to Winifred, 12 mi. E on Knox Ridge Rd., 16 mi. NE on Two Calf Rd., 3 mi. NE	5/30-10/31	5	24'	•	•	A	•	•	•	14	•	

Yellowstone Country

name / location	season	camping	trailers	toilets	water	boat launch	fishing	swimming	trails	stay limit	fee	handicapped
Aspen Grove FS, 25 mi. SW of Big Timber on MT 298, 9 mi. S on Cty. Rd. 212	All Year	10	16'	•	•	•	•	•	•	14	•	
Bakars Hole FS, 3 mi. N of West Yellowstone on US 191 (Reservations: 800-283-CAMP)	5/22-9/15	72	32'	H	•	•	•	•	•	15	•	
Basin FS, 1 mi. S of Red Lodge on US 212, 7 mi. W on Forest Rd. 71	5/27-9/5	28	22'	•	•	•	•	•	•	10	•	
Battle Ridge FS, 21 mi. NE of Bozeman on MT 293	6/10-9/30	13	16'	•	•	•	•	•	•	15	•	
Beaver Creek FS, 8 mi. N of West Yellowstone on US 191, 17 mi. W on US 287 (Reservations: 800-283-CAMP)	5/22-9/15	64	32'	•	•	C	•	•	•	15	•	
Cabin Creek FS, 8 mi. N of West Yellowstone on US 191, 17 mi. W on US 287 (Reservations: 800-283-CAMP)	6/1-9/15	15	22'	H	•	•	•	•	•	15	•	
Carbella BLM, 20 mi. N of Gardiner on US 89, 1 mi. W at Miner	All Year	10	35'	•	•	B	•	•	•	14	•	
Cascade FS, 2 mi. S of Red Lodge on US 212, 10 mi. W on Forest Rd. 71	5/27-9/5	30	32'	•	•	•	•	•	•	10	•	
Chief Joseph FS, 5 mi. E of Cooke City on US 212	7/1-9/10	6	22'	•	•	•	•	•	•	15	•	
Chisholm FS, 8 mi. S of Bozeman on Cty. Rd. 243, 11 mi. SE on Hyalite Canyon Rd. (Forest Rd. 62)	6/15-9/15	10	•	H	•	•	•	•	•	14	•	
Cotar FS, 3 mi. E of Cooke City on US 212	7/1-9/10	23	22'	•	•	•	•	•	•	15	•	
Cooney FWP, 22 mi. SW of Laurel, milepost 90, 8 mi. W on Cty. Rd.	All Year	70	•	•	•	C	•	•	•	14	•	
Dailey Lake FWP, 1 mi. E of Emigrant, 4 mi. S on Hwy 540, 6 mi. SE on Cty. Rd.		35	•	•	•	C	•	•	•	14	•	
East Rosebud Lake FS, 7 mi. SW on Cty. Rd., 6 mi. SW on Forest Rd. 177	5/27-9/5	12	16'	•	•	•	•	•	•	10	•	
Emerald Lake FS, 3 mi. S of Absarokee on MT 78, 6 mi. W on MT 419, 12 mi. S on Forest Rd. 72	6/5-9/15	30	32'	•	•	•	•	•	•	10	•	
Emigrant FWP, 22 mi. S of Livingston on US 89 to Emigrant, ½ mi. E across bridge		5	•	•	•	B	•	•	•	14	•	
Fairwaather FWP, 1 mi. W of Logan on Hwy 205, 3 mi. N on Logan-Trident Rd., 7 mi. NE on Clarkston Rd.		10	•	•	•	C	•	•	•	14	•	
Falls Creek FS, 25 mi. SW of Big Timber on MT 298, 7 mi. S on Cty. Rd. 212	All Year	17	22'	•	•	•	•	•	•	14	•	
Greek Creek FS, 2 mi. E on State Rd. 191 S, 9 mi. NW on Forest Rd. 81	6/15-9/15	14	16'	•	•	•	•	•	•	15	•	
Greenough Lake FS, 12 mi. SW of Red Lodge on US 212, 1 mi. SW on Forest Rd. 421	5/27-9/5	17	22'	H	•	•	•	•	•	10	•	
Graycliff FWP, 23 mi. W of Bozeman on MT 84, 6 mi. N on Madison River Rd.		30	•	•	•	C	•	•	•	14	•	
Half Moon FS, 12 mi. N of Big Timber on US 191, 8 mi. W on Cty. Rd. 197, 2 mi. W on Forest Rd. 197	6/15-10/15	9	22'	•	•	•	•	•	•	14	•	
Hells Canyon FS, 25 mi. SW of Big Timber on MT 298, 14 mi. S on Cty. Rd. 212	All Year	11	16'	•	•	•	•	•	•	15	•	
Hicks Park FS, 25 mi. SW of Big Timber on MT 298, 20 mi. S on Cty. Rd. 212	All Year	27	22'	•	•	•	•	•	•	15	•	
Hood FS, 8 mi. S of Bozeman on Cty. Rd. 243, 10 mi. SE on Hyalite Canyon Rd. (Forest Rd. 62)	6/15-9/15	8	16'	•	•	C	•	•	•	15	•	
Itch-Kep-Pe Park, S of Columbus on MT 78	4/1-10/31	30	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	14	•	
Jimmy Joa FS, 4 mi. S of Absarokee on MT 78, 10 mi. S on Cty. Rd. 177, 3 mi. S on Forest Rd. 177	5/27-9/5	10	32'	•	•	•	•	•	•	10	•	
Langhor FS, 8 mi. S of Bozeman on MT 345, 5 mi. SE on Hyalite Canyon Rd., Forest Rd. 62	6/15-9/15	13	16'	H	•	•	•	•	•	15	•	
Limbar Pina FS, 12 mi. SW of Red Lodge on US 212, 1 mi. SW on Forest Rd. 421	5/27-9/5	13	22'	•	•	•	•	•	•	10	•	
Loch Lavan FWP, 9 mi. S of Livingston on US 89 to milepost 44, 2 mi. E, 4 mi. S on Hwy 540		30	•	•	•	C	•	•	•	14	•	
Lonasomahurst FS, 4 mi. W of West Yellowstone on US 20, 7 mi. N on Hebgen Lake Rd. (Reservations: 800-283-CAMP)	5/22-9/15	26	32'	H	•	C	•	•	•	15	•	
Mallard's Rest FWP, 13 mi. S of Livingston on US 89 to milepost 42		20	•	•	•	B	•	•	•	14	•	
Missouri Headwaters FWP, 3 mi. E of Three Forks on Hwy 205, 3 mi. N on Hwy 286	All Year	20	•	•	•	C	•	•	•	14	•	
M-K FS, 12 mi. SW of Red Lodge on US 212, 4 mi. SW on Forest Rd. 421	6/15-9/15	10	22'	•	•	•	•	•	•	10	•	

Yellowstone Country

name / location

Moose Flat FS, 2 mi. E of Big Sky on MT 191S, 5 mi. N on US 191

Pellisedes FS, 2 mi. S of Red Lodge on US 212, 1 mi. W on Forest Rd. 71, 2 mi. W on Cty. Rd. 3010, 1 mi. NW of Forest Rd. 3010

Parkside FS, 12 mi. SW of Red Lodge on US 212, 1 mi. SW on Forest Rd. 421

Petrified Forest FS, 16 mi. NW of Gardiner on US 89, 12 mi. SW on Cty. Rd. 63, 4 mi. SW on Forest Rd. 63

Pine Creek FS, 10 mi. S of Livingston on US 89, 2 mi. W on Cty. Rd. 540, 3 mi. W on Forest Rd. 202

Pine Grove FS, 3 mi. S of Absarokee on MT 78, 6 mi. W on MT 419, 6 mi. SW on Cty. Rd. 425, 8 mi. SW on Forest Rd. 72

Rainbow Point FS, 5 mi. N of West Yellowstone on US 191, 5 mi. W on Forest Rd. 610 (Reservations: 800-283-CAMP)

season

camping

trailers

toilets

water

boat launch

fishing

swimming

trails

stay limit

fee

handicapped

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Yellowstone Country



LEGEND

● Cities

● Towns

15 Interstate Marker

100 U.S. Numbered Marker

20 State Route Marker

✈ Major Airports

▲ Campgrounds

National Forest

Wilderness Area

National Parks

Lakes and Waterways

Roads



Public Campgrounds

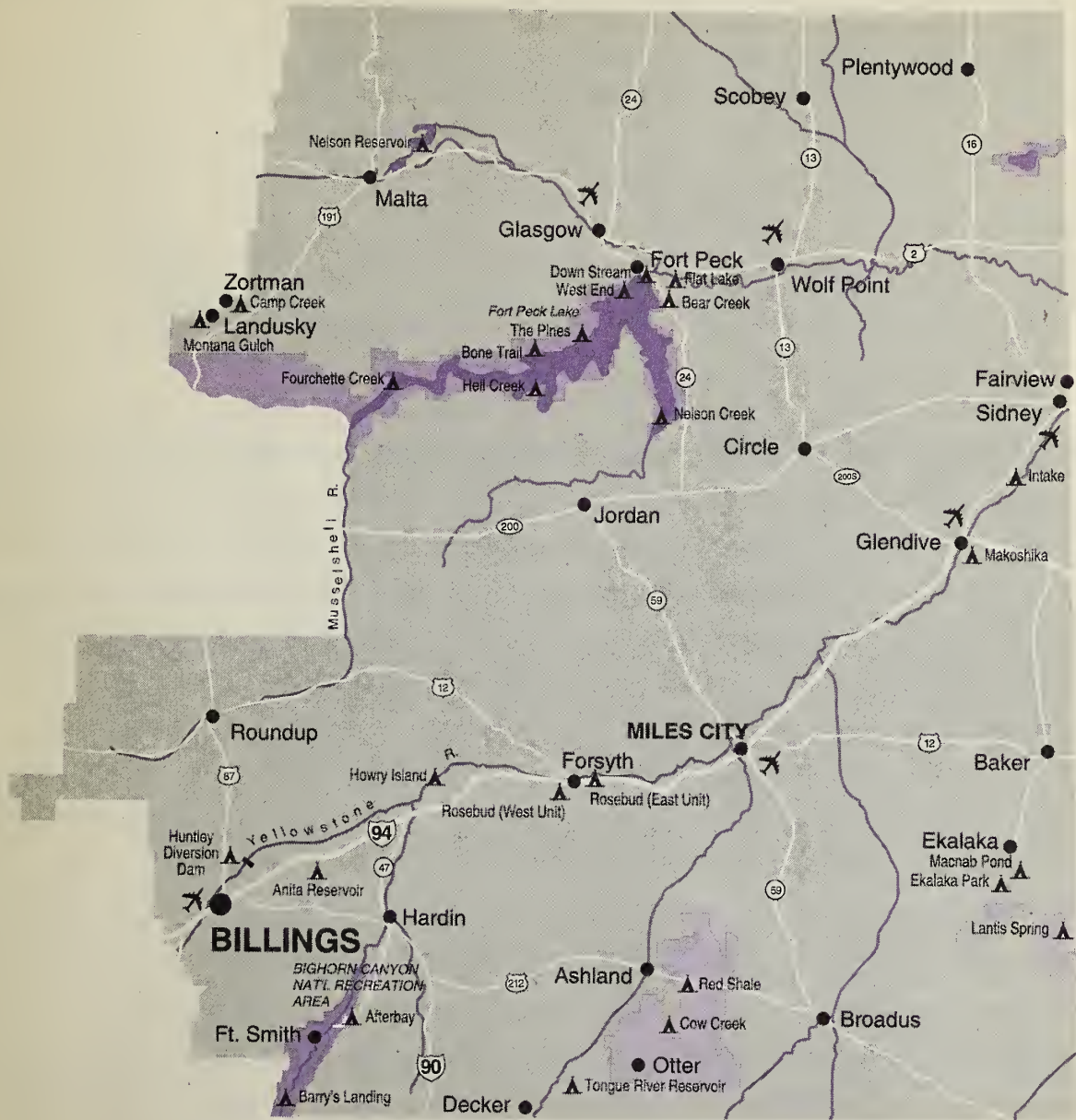
Yellowstone Country

name / location	season	camping	trailers	toilets	water	boat launch	fishing	swimming	trails	stay limit	fee	handicapped
Ratine FS, 5 mi. SW of Red Lodge on US 212, 3 mi. SW on Forest Rd. 379	6/15-9/15	8	22'	•	•	•	•	•	•	10	•	•
Red Cliff FS, 2 mi. E on State Rd. 1915, 6 mi. SE on Forest Rd. 634	6/15-9/15	68	22'	•	•	•	•	•	•	15	•	•
Sage Creek FS, 3 mi. S of Bridger on US 310, 22 mi. SE on Cty. Rd., 1 mi. E on Forest Rd. 50	6/15-9/15	12	32'	•	•	•	•	•	•	10	•	•
Sheridan FS, 5 mi. SW of Red Lodge on US 212, 2 mi. SW on Forest Rd. 379	6/15-9/15	8	22'	•	•	•	•	•	•	10	•	•
Snow Bank FS, 20 mi. S of Livingston on US 89, 15 mi. SE on Cty. Rd. 486	6/1-9/15	11	22'	•	•	•	•	•	•	15	•	•
Soda Butte FS, 1 mi. E of Cooke City on US 212	7/1-9/10	21	22'	•	•	•	•	•	•	14	•	•
Spanish Creek FS, 8 mi. S of Gallatin Gateway on US 191, 5 mi. W on Cty. Rd. 982, 4 mi. SW on Forest Rd. 63	6/15-10/15	6	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	14	•	•
Spire Rock FS, 12 mi. S of Gallatin Gateway on US 191, 3 mi. E on Forest Rd. 1321	6/15-9/15	16	16'	•	•	•	•	•	•	15	•	•
Swan Creek FS, 2 mi. E on State Rd. 191S, 8 mi. N on US 191, 1 mi. S on Forest Rd. 481A	6/15-9/15	11	16'	•	•	•	•	•	•	15	•	•
West Boulder FS, 20 mi. SW of Big Timber on MT 298, 7 mi. W on Cty. Rd. 35, 5 mi. SW on Forest Rd. 35	All Year	10	22'	•	•	•	•	•	•	14	•	•
Woodbine FS, 3 mi. S of Absarokee on MT 78, 23 mi. W on MT 419	6/15-9/15	44	32'	•	•	•	•	•	•	10	•	•
YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK (season dates subject to change)												
Bridge Bay NPS, 3 mi. S of Lake Village (Reservations available through Ticketron)	5/24-9/16	420	45'	•	•	C	•	•	•	14	•	•
Canyon NPS, ¼ mi. E of Canyon Jct.	6/7-9/9	280	45'	•	•	•	•	•	•	14	•	•
Grant Village NPS, 2 mi. S of West Thumb Jct.	6/21-10/14	403	45'	•	•	•	•	•	•	14	•	•
Indian Creek NPS, 7½ mi. S of Mammoth Jct.	6/7-9/16	75	45'	H	•	•	•	•	•	14	•	•
Lewis Lake NPS, 10 mi. S of West Thumb	6/14-10/31	85	45'	H	•	C	•	•	•	14	•	•
Madison NPS, ¼ mi. W of Madison Jct.	5/3-10/31	292	45'	H	•	•	•	•	•	14	•	•
Mammoth NPS, ½ mi. N of Mammoth Jct.	All Year	85	45'	•	•	•	•	•	•	14	•	•
Norris NPS, 1 mi. N of Norris Jct.	5/17-9/30	116	45'	•	•	•	•	•	•	14	•	•
Pebble Creek NPS, 7 mi. S of NE Entrance	6/14-9/9	36	45'	H	•	•	•	•	•	14	•	•
Slough Creek NPS, 10 mi. NE of Tower Jct.	5/24-10/31	29	25'	H	•	•	•	•	•	14	•	•
Tower Falls NPS, 3 mi. SE of Tower Jct.	5/24-9/16	32	25'	H	•	•	•	•	•	14	•	•

Missouri River Country & Custer Country

name / location	season	camping	trailers	toilets	water	boat launch	fishing	swimming	trails	stay limit	fee	handicapped
Anita Reservoir USBR, 4 mi. S of I-94, Pompeys Pillar exit	All Year	•	•	•	•	A	•	•	•	14	•	•
BIGHORN CANYON NATIONAL RECREATION AREA												
Afterbay NPS, 1 mi. NE of Yellowstone Dam	All Year	48	•	H	•	C	•	•	N	14	•	•
Barry's Landing NPS, 27 mi. N of Lovell, WY, on Hwy 37	All Year	9	•	H	•	C	•	•	•	14	•	•
Bear Creek CE, 11 mi. E of Fort Peck on Hwy 24, 7 mi. W on City Rd.	All Year	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	14	•	•
Bone Trail CE, 40 mi. SW of Fort Peck on City Rd.	All Year	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	14	•	•
Camp Creek BLM, 1 mi. NE of Zortman on Cty. Rd.	5/16-10/31	9	24'	•	•	•	•	•	•	14	•	•
Cow Creek FS, 8 mi. N of Otter on Forest Rd. 51, 5 mi. W on Forest Rd. 95	5/15-11/1	8	32'	•	•	•	•	•	•	14	•	•
Downstream CE, ½ mi. E of Fort Peck on Yellowstone Rd.	5/15-10/15	51	35'	H	•	C	•	•	•	14	•	•
Ekalaka Park FS, 3 mi. SE of Ekalaka on MT 323, 1 mi. W on Cty. Rd., 5 mi. S on Forest Rd. 813	5/1-11/15	9	16'	•	•	•	•	•	•	14	•	•
Flat Lake CE, 4 mi. E of Fort Peck on MT 24	All Year	15	•	•	•	C	•	•	•	14	•	•
Fourchette Creek CE, 71 mi. S of Malta on Cty. Rd. (Fort Peck Lake)	5/15-10/30	10	•	•	•	C	•	•	•	14	•	•
Hell Creek FWP, MT 200 to milepost 213, 24 mi. N of Jordan on Cty. Rd.	5/15-9/15	40	•	•	•	C	•	•	•	14	•	•
Howry Island BLM, 26 mi. W of Forsyth on I-94, 3 mi. N to Hysham, 8 mi. W on Rt. 311 to bridge	5/1-10/31	•	24'	•	•	C	•	•	B	14	•	•
Huntley Diversion Dam USBR, 1 mi. W of I-94, Huntley exit on gravel road	All Year	•	•	•	•	B	•	•	•	14	•	•
Intake FWP, 16 mi. N of Glendive on MT 16, S on Cty. Rd.	•	40	•	•	•	C	•	•	•	14	•	•
Lantis Spring FS, 3 mi. W of Camp Crook, SD, on Hwy 20 SE of Ekalaka, 11 mi. NW on Forest Rd. 117	5/1-11/15	5	16'	•	•	•	•	•	•	14	•	•
Macnab Pond FS, 7 mi. SE of Ekalaka on MT 323, 1 mi. E on Cty. Rd.	5/1-11/15	5	22'	•	•	•	•	•	•	14	•	•
Makoshika FWP, 2 mi. SE of Glendive on Snyder Ave.	All Year	6	•	H	•	•	•	•	N	14	•	•
Montana Gulch BLM, ½ mi. NW of Landusky on Cty. Rd.	5/1-10/31	5	24'	•	•	•	•	•	•	14	•	•
Nelson Creek CE, 42 mi. S of Fort Peck on MT 24, then 7 mi. W on Cty. Rd.	5/15-10/15	20	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	14	•	•
Nelson Reservoir USBR, 18 mi. E of Malta on US 2, 2 mi. N on Cty. Rd.	All Year	•	•	•	•	C	•	•	•	14	•	•
The Pines CE, 33 mi. SW of Fort Peck on Cty. Rd.	5/15-10/15	15	•	•	•	C	•	•	•	14	•	•
Red Shale FS, 6 mi. SE of Ashland on US 212	5/1-11/15	16	32'	•	•	•	•	•	•	14	•	•
Rosebud (East Unit) FWP, I-94 at Forsyth, E Exit, N to Yellowstone River	All Year	10	•	•	•	C	•	•	•	14	•	•
Rosebud (West Unit) FWP, W of Forsyth on US 12 at S end of Yellowstone River Bridge, milepost 270	•	10	•	•	•	C	•	•	•	14	•	•
Tongue River Reservoir FWP, 6 mi. N of Decker on Hwy 314, 1 mi. E on Cty. Rd.	All Year	100	•	•	•	C	•	•	•	14	•	•
West End CE, 2 mi. S of Fort Peck on MT 24	5/15-10/15	12	35'	H	•	C	•	•	•	14	•	•

Missouri River/Custer Countries



LEGEND

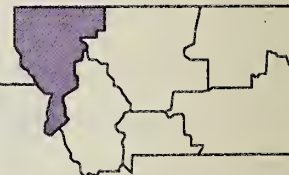
- Cities
- Towns
- 15 Interstate Marker
- U.S. Numbered Marker
- 200 State Route Marker
- ✈ Major Airports
- ▲ Campgrounds
- National Forest
- Wilderness Area
- National Parks
- Lakes and Waterways
- Roads



Private Campgrounds

Montana has a wide variety of privately owned and operated campgrounds available for your enjoyment. Campgrounds are listed by town within each of Montana's six vacation countries. For quick reference, refer to the map on page 20. All Montana phone numbers are reached by area code 406. For more information contact:
Montana Campground Owners Association, 3695 Tina Avenue,
Missoula, MT 59802, 549-0881.

Glacier Country



town	name / location	season	# tent	# rv	water	electric	sewer	dump	shower	laundry	store	additional information
ALBERTON	River Edge Campground, 722-4418, I-90 Exit 75, ¼ mi E on Clark Fork River	All Yr.		11	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Casino, snacks, grocery, bar
ARLEE	Jocko Hollow, 726-3336, 1 mi. N on US 93	3/1-10/31		16	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Volleyball, badminton, horseshoes, fishing
	Tepee Village, ¼ mi. N on US 93	4/1-11/1			•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Restaurant
BABB	Babb KOA, 732-4452, 3 mi. S on US 89	5/15-9/15	22	100	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Playground, swimming, fishing
	Chief Mountain Service, 732-9253, 4 mi. N at Jct. 17 & US 89	5/1-10/1	30	26	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Motel, service station
	Lake View Tourist Resort, 732-5535, 4 mi. N of St. Mary on US 89	5/1-9/15	20	25	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Fishing, swimming, restaurant
BIG ARM	Big Arm Resort & Marina, 849-5622, On US 93, 12 mi. N of Polson	5/15-9/15		12	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Boat rentals & launch, furnished cabins
	Happy Landen RV Park, 849-5604, 13 mi. N of Polson on US 93	5/15-10/1		16	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Boat rentals, fishing, swimming, adults only
	Skipping Rock Lodge & Trailer Park, 849-5678, ½ mi. N on US 93	5/15-9/15	6	28	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Beach, boat ramp, playground, grass & trees
	Snowberg's Port & Court, 849-5501, US 93	5/30-10/1		14	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Boat rentals & dock
BIGFORK	Flathead East RV Park, 982-3324, 12 mi. S	6/1-9/30	10	85	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Located on lake
	Ronde Vue Campground, 837-6973, 3.5 mi S on Hwy 35	5/1-9/30	10	40	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Fishing nearby, playground
	Summer Shores, 837-5609, Located in Woods Bay	5/1-10/31	5	5	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Lake, swim, fish, restaurant nearby
	Timbers RV Park, 837-6200, ½ mi. S on Hwy 35	4/1-10/31	34	34	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Fishing, hunting, boating nearby
	Woods Bay Marina & RV Resort, 837-6191 4 mi. S on Hwy 35	4/15-10/31		20	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Located on Flathead Lake, marina
BROWNING	Duck Lake Campground, 338-5007, 6 mi. N of St. Mary's, 4 mi. E on Hwy 464	All Yr.	25	100	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Lake, boating dock
	Aspenwood Campgrounds, 338-7911, 9 mi. W on US 89	5/25-9/15	16	12	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Restaurant, Indian music, fiddlers
COLUMBIA FALLS	Glacier Village Park, ¼ mi E of Jct. on US 2	5/15-10/1	27	50	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Playground
	LaSalle Campground, 892-4668, 3 mi. W on US 2	All Yr.	6	35	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Playground, recreation area
	Mountain Shadows, 892-7686, Jct. of Hwy 2 & 206	All Yr.	10	13	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Restaurant, motel
CONNER	Moosehead Campground, 821-3327, 15 mi. S of Darby, 3 mi. N of Sula on US 93	4/1-11/1		16	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Lake, fishing, horseshoes, wild game
	Travelers Village Resort, 821-4767, 3 mi. S of Conner on Hwy 93	All Yr.			•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Restaurant, gas station, fishing, cabins
CORAM	Sundance Campground, 387-5016, 5 mi. S of West Glacier on US 2	6/1-9/31	30	40	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Playground
CUT BANK	Riverview Campground, 873-5545, 4th Ave. SW	All Yr.	16	34	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Hot tub, fishing, pool nearby
	Shady Grove Campground, 336-2475, 6 mi W on US 2	5/15-10/1	10	19	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Playground, horseshoes, car rental
DARBY	West Fork Lodge Campground, 821-3069, West Fork Rd.	All Yr.	20	15	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	2500' airstrip, great fishing
DEBORGIA	Black Diamond Dude Ranch, 1 mi. E of town I-90	5/1-10/1	40	8	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Gymnasium, sauna, jacuzzi, fishing
EAST GLACIER	Firebrand Pass Campground, 226-5573, 3 mi. W on US 2	6/1-9/15	10	30	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Restaurant, fishing, grassy areas
	Red Eagle Campground, 4 mi. off US 2 on Hwy 49	All Yr.	10	22	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Waterskiing, boating, fishing
	Sears Motel & Campground, 226-4432, ½ mi. N of US 2 on Hwy 49	5/1-9/1	5	9	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Good Sam discounts, car rentals
	Smiley Trailer Court, 226-5595, 2 bks E of US 2, turn E at Glacier Ave.	5/15-10/15		8	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Sites among tall pines
	Three Forks Campground, 226-4479, 16 mi. W on US 2	6/15-9/15	16	26	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Playground, fishing nearby
	Y Lazy R RV Park, 226-5573, 2 bks E & S of US 2	6/1-9/15	10	30	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	½ bks to playground, 2 bks to restaurant
ELMO	Arrowhead Resort, 849-5545, 1 mi. S on US 93 on Flathead Lake	5/1-9/30	5	40	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Boat rentals, launch, lake, fishing
ESSEX	Half-Way House, 888-5650, 1 mi. W of Essex on US 2	All Yr.		8	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Restaurant, bar
EUREKA	Creek Side Trailer Park & Motel, 296-2361, 1 mi. N on US 93	5/1-11/1		12	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Playground, natural creek, restaurant nearby
	Lazy JC Ranch, 889-3535, 3 mi. E on County Rd. at Jct. of US 93 & Hwy 37	6/1-9/15	8	24	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Quiet location on family ranch
	North Fort, 889-3444, US 93 N, 2 mi. S of border	4/1-10/31	4	28	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Restaurant
FORTINE	Jerry's RV Park & Golf Course, 882-4474, 1000 feet off US 93	All Yr.	10	18	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Steak house, casino, par 3 lighted golf course
GARRISON	Lahman Trailer Park, ¼ mi. S Jct. US 12 & I-90	All Yr.		12	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Playground, fishing, river
	Pat's Place, 846-3267, 1½ mi. W on Frontage Rd.	All Yr.	20	13	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Adult lounge on Clark Fork River
HAMILTON	Angler's Roost, 363-1268, 3½ mi. S on US 93	All Yr.	10	59	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Fishing, river, cabins
	Bitterroot KOA, 363-2430, 8 mi. S on US 93	5/1-9/30	18	32	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Trout pond, playground
	Lick Creek Campground, 821-3840, 11 mi. S on US 93	4/1-11/1	40	40	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Recreation hall
	Mountain View Trailer Court, 363-1848, 1 mi. N on US 93	All Yr.		16	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Fishing in Corvallis Canal on property
HAUGAN	Ranita Campground, 678-4242, ½ mi. W Exit 16 off I-90	All Yr.	25	10	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Playground, horseshoes
	Lincoln's Silver & Campground, 678-4242, Exit 16 off I-90	All Yr.		10	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Bar, gift shop, restaurant, gas, casino
HOT SPRINGS	Camp Aqua Bath House, 741-3480, 7 mi. NE of town, 2½ mi. E	All Yr.		12	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Hot springs

Private Campgrounds

Glacier Country

town	name / location	season	# tent	# rv	water	electric	sewer	dump	shower	laundry	store	additional information
HOT SPRINGS cont.	Shady Grove, 741-3845, W on Central	4/15-10/15			•	•	•	•	•	•		
HUNGRY HORSE	Crooked Tree RV Park, 387-5531, W on US 2	4/1-11/1		26	•	•	•	•	•	•		Pool, sauna, shady sites
KALISPELL	Glacier Pines RV Park, 752-2760, 800-533-4029, 4 mi. E on Hwy 35	4/15-10/30	50	150	•	•	•	•	•	•		Playground, game room
	Greenwood Village Campground, 257-7719, 7 blks E of Jct. 93 & 2	4/1-10/31	35	95	•	•	•	•	•	•		Restaurant, swimming pool, mall nearby
	Lake Blaine Resort, 755-2891, 11 mi. E on Lake Blaine Rd.	6/1-9/30	12	75	•	•	•	•	•	•		Swimming, snack bar, playground, skating
	Lion's Bitterroot Youth Camp, 854-2744, 5 mi. N of Marion on Pleasant Valley Rd. #1650	5/1-9/30	14		•	•	•	•	•	•		Swimming area, playground
	Rocky Mountain 'Hi' Campground, 755-9573, 5 mi. E of Jct. 93 on US 2	All Yr.	25	59	•	•	•	•	•	•		Canoeing, fishing, playground
	Shady Lane Campground, 752-5281, 1 mi. E of K-Mart	5/15-9/15	10	10	•	•	•	•	•	•		Shade trees, creek
	Somers Lending, 857-3488, 9 mi. S Hwy 82 on Flathead	6/1-9/30	90	90	•	•	•	•	•	•		Lake, fishing, boating, Good Sam
	Spruce Park, 752-6321, 3 mi. E, Old Hwy 2 & 35	All Yr.	60	60	•	•	•	•	•	•		River fishing
LIBBY	Eagle Conoco, 293-6066, 2 mi. W on US 2	All Yr.	7	13	•	•	•	•	•	•		
	Happy's Inn, 293-7810, 47 mi. SE on US 2	All Yr.	25	16	•	•	•	•	•	•		Beach, boating, cabins, bar, restaurant
	Hartmann Orchard Vele, 293-7277, 4 mi. N on Hwy 37	6/1-9/30		4	•	•	•	•	•	•		Kootenai River frontage
	Koocanusa Resort, 293-7548, 23.8 mi. NE on Hwy 37	4/15-10/15		50	•	•	•	•	•	•		Lake, fishing, boating
	Meadowlark RV Park, 293-8323, ¼ mi. W on US	4/1-10/1	12	30	•	•	•	•	•	•		
	Woody's Park, 293-6360, 4 mi. W on US 2	5/1-9/1	6	12	•	•	•	•	•	•		Pets welcome, trails, trees, fishing
LOLO	Lolo Hot Springs, 273-2290, 35 mi. SW of Missoula on US 12	5/1-10/1	40	60	•	•	•	•	•	•		Hot springs swimming pool, bar, restaurant
	The Square & Round Dance Center, 273-0141, 2½ mi. W on US 12	5/1-10/1	10	60	•	•	•	•	•	•		Dancing, fishing
MARION	Boisvert's Resort, 858-2452, US 2, McGregor Lake	All Yr.		15	•	•	•	•	•	•		Restaurant, lake, fishing, boating
	Rest-A-Day Campground, 854-2292, US 2, 20 mi. W of Kalispell	All Yr.	7	22	•	•	•	•	•	•		Playground, horseshoes
	Saddle Tramp Inn, 858-2253, 30 mi. W of Kalispell on Hwy 2	All Yr.	10	6	•	•	•	•	•	•		Restaurant, motel, bar, cabins, horse corral
MARTIN CITY	Middle Fork Motel, 387-5556, 1 mi. E of Hungry Horse on Hwy 2	All Yr.		11	•	•	•	•	•	•		
MISSOULA	El-Mar KOA, 549-0881, I-90 Exit 101, Reserve St.	All Yr.	36	173	•	•	•	•	•	•		Swimming, pool, hot tub, mini-golf, zoo
	Jim & Mery's Adult RV Park, 549-4416, 1 mi. N of I-90 on US 93	4/1-10/31		45	•	•	•	•	•	•		
	Out Post Campground, 549-2016, I-90, Exit 96, 2 mi. N on US 93	All Yr.	10	35	•	•	•	•	•	•		Playground
	Turah Store & Campground, 258-6628, 12 mi. E at I-90 Exit 113	4/1-10/15	17	19	•	•	•	•	•	•		Playground, mini-golf, zoo, fishing
NOXON	Cabinet Gorge RV & Recreation Resort, 847-2291, W 6 mi. on Hwy 200	All Yr.	12	27	•	•	•	•	•	•		Fishing, hiking, volleyball, huckleberries
	Hereford Restaurant, 847-2635, 12 mi. E of border on Hwy 200	4/1-11/30	10	10	•	•	•	•	•	•		Restaurant, horseshoes
OLNEY	Dog Creek Campground, 881-2472, 21 mi. N of Whitefish on US 93	4/1-10/31	10	20	•	•	•	•	•	•		Fishing, playground, lodge accommodations
PARADISE	Quinn's Hot Springs, 826-3150/3157, 4 mi. S on Hwy 135	All Yr.	30	38	•	•	•	•	•	•		Playground, rec., pool, river, restaurant
PLAINS	Harwood Campground, 826-3623, E side of Plains on Hwy 200	4/1-11/30		35	•	•	•	•	•	•		Clark Fork River nearby, all grass area
POLSON	Blue Bay Resort, 12 mi. NE of Jct. 35 & US 93 on Hwy 35	All Yr.		70	•	•	•	•	•	•		
	Eagle Nest RV Resort, 883-5904, ¼ mi. E on Hwy 35	4/15-10/15	2	30	•	•	•	•	•	•		Pool, spa, golf course nearby
	Flathead Lake RV Resort, 833-5940, 4½ mi. E on Hwy 35	5/1-10/15	10	91	•	•	•	•	•	•		Swimming pool, water sports
	Polson/Flathead KOA, 883-2151, ½ mi. N on US 93	4/1-10/15	8	41	•	•	•	•	•	•		Heated pool, spa, kitchen, playground
	Rocking C Ranch, 887-2537, 7 mi. N on Hwy 35	5/1-9/30	30	72	•	•	•	•	•	•		Dining room, lounge, playground
	Village Motel & Trailer Court, US 93 E edge of town	All Yr.	3	8	•	•	•	•	•	•		Golf
PROCTOR	Camp Tuffit, 849-5220, 6 mi. W of Hwy 93 at Dayton	5/15-9/30	10	25	•	•	•	•	•	•		Fishing, cafe, boat rentals, cabins
	Lake Mary Ronan Lodge, 9 mi. W of Dayton	5/15-9/15	10	39	•	•	•	•	•	•		Marina, fishing, cabins, restaurant
RAVALLI	Bison View Campground, 246-3244, 2 mi. W on Hwy 200	5/25-9/30	6	12	•	•	•	•	•	•		Near National Bison Range
	Day's Rest & Overnight Court, 745-4554, Jct. Hwy 93-200	4/1-10/31	6	10	•	•	•	•	•	•		Restaurant nearby, grass & shade
REXFORD	Meriners Haven, 296-3252, 1 mi. S of Rexford	4/1-10/1	200	55	•	•	•	•	•	•		Marina, playground, tepee & water sports rentals
ROLLINS	Big Sky RV Resort & Marina, 844-3501, US 93 S on Flathead Lake	5/1-10/15	12	50	•	•	•	•	•	•		Drive-in cafe, laundry, boat rentals
	Kim's, ½ mi. S on US 93	5/15-10/31	25	32	•	•	•	•	•	•		Boating, fishing
	Table Bay Resort, 844-3368, 2 mi. N on US 93	All Yr.	10	10	•	•	•	•	•	•		Boating, fishing
RONAN	Diamond "S" RV Park, 676-3641, ¼ mi. N on Hwy 93	4/15-11/1	10	22	•	•	•	•	•	•		Playground, horseshoes, working ranch, show & barbeque
	Mission Meadow Campground, 676-5182, 3 mi. N on US 93, ½ mi. W	All Yr.	50	50	•	•	•	•	•	•		Playground, pool, pond, tepee & tent rental
SEELEY LAKE	Seeley Lake Ranch, 677-2452, W of Rt. 83 in town	5/1-10/31	10	25	•	•	•	•	•	•		Boat launch, swimming, playground
	Wapiti Resort, 677-2775, 1 mi. N of Seeley Lake on Hwy 83	All Yr.		8	•	•	•	•	•	•		Swimming, restaurant, old town
ST. MARY	Far Out Camping, On US 89, 4 mi. N				•	•	•	•	•	•		

RONAN



DIAMOND 'S' RV PARK - Western Brand Hospitality

* Hot Showers * 22 pull-thrus, full hook-ups, plus 15 other stalls
 * Laundry * Clean rest rooms * Picnic tables * Tours of working ranch
 Central Location to Flathead Lake, Bison Range and Glacier Park
Box 792, Ronan, MT 59864 * 1/2 mile north on Hwy 93 * (406)676-3641
 Tom, Evie, Marvin, Pam Walchuk

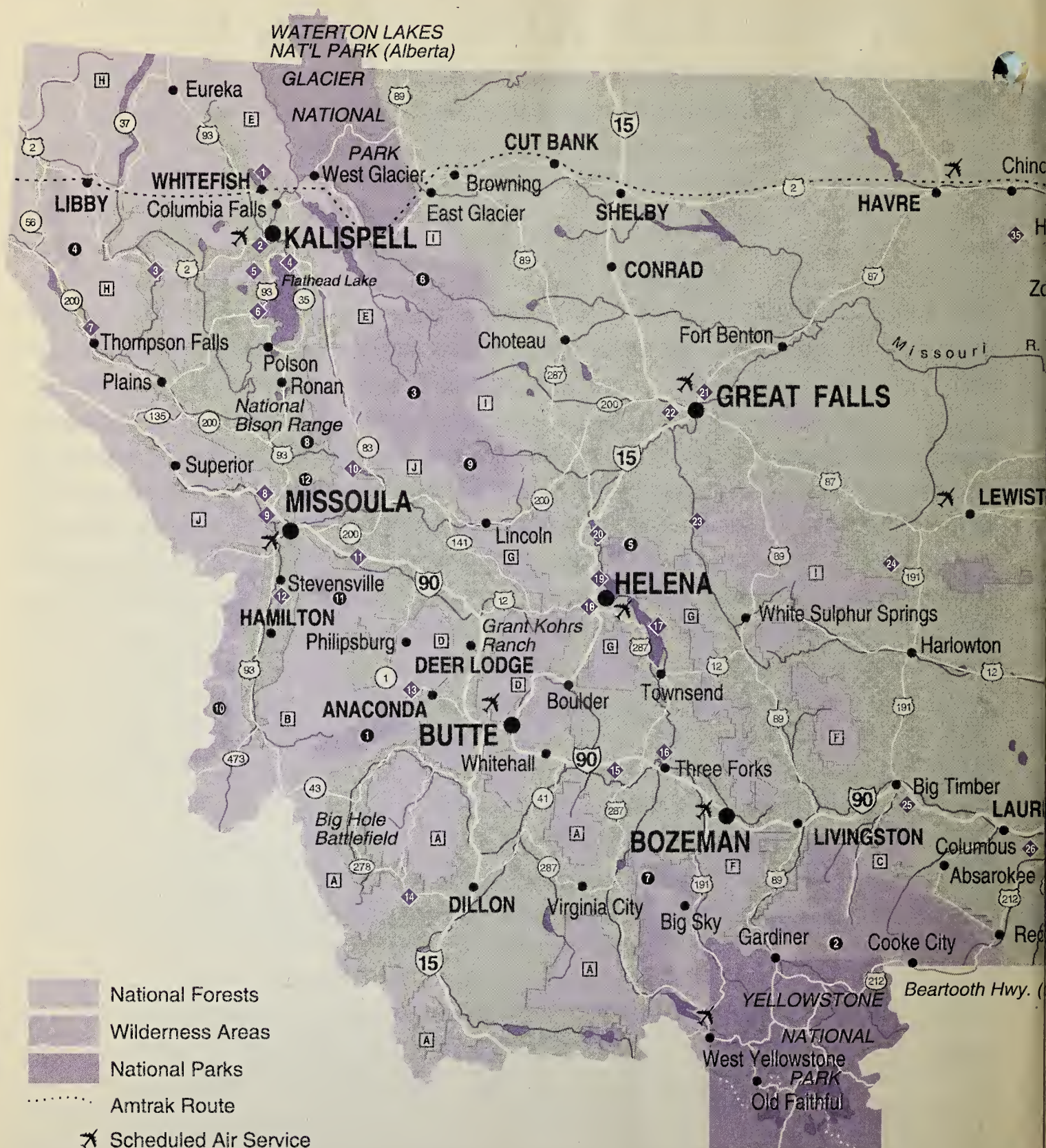
ST. MARY



JOHNSON'S OF ST. MARY - Full Service RV Park & Campground

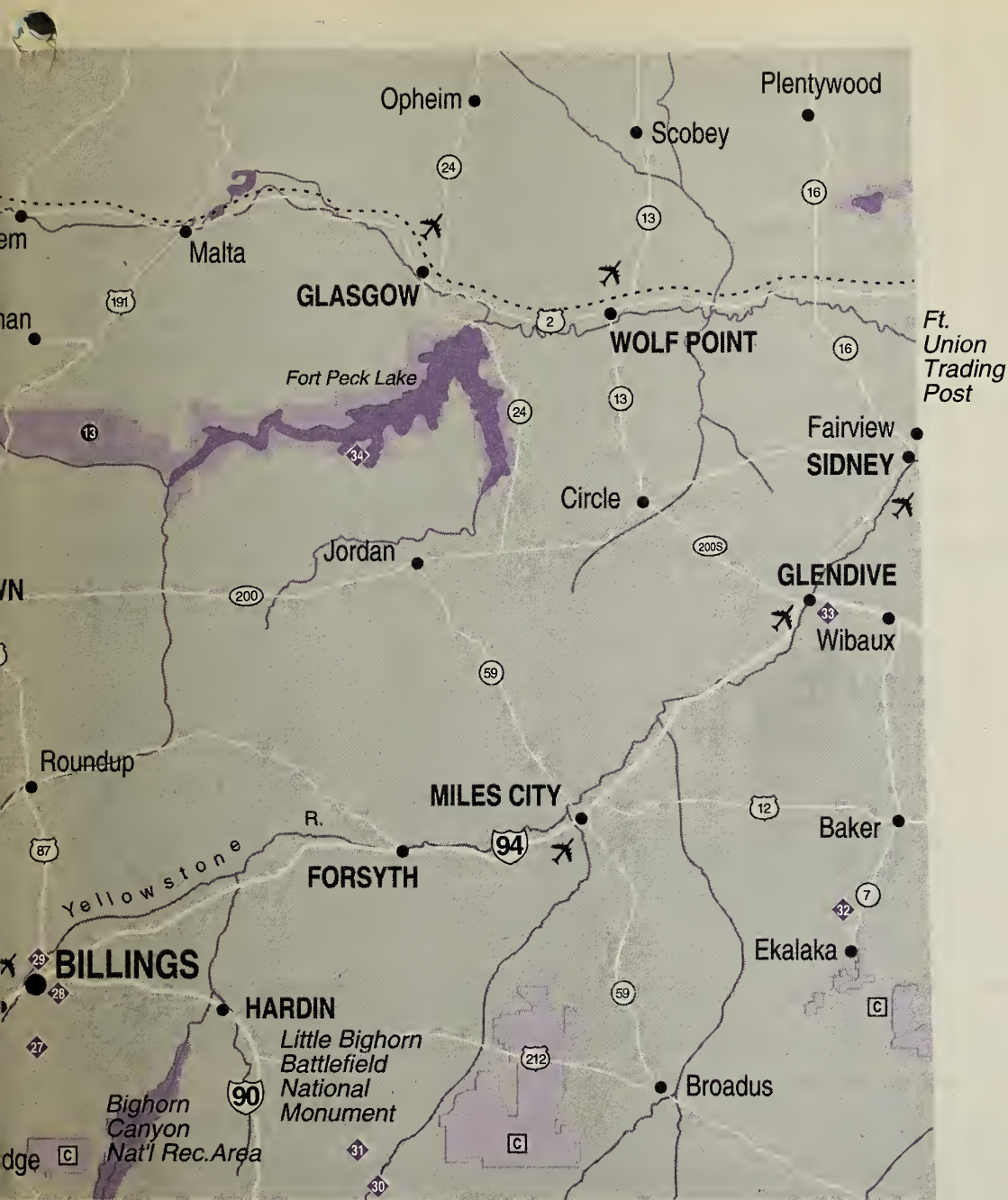
* G.S. or Senior Citizen Discount
 * World famous restaurant - best food value in America
 * All pull through sites - 25 with electricity and water - 40 full hookups
 * 50 tent spaces * Next to Red Eagle Motel
Johnson's of St. Mary, St. Mary, Montana 59417 * (406)732-5565

Montana Reference Map



Simplified map for general reference only.

See pullout map in Montana Vacation Guide or Montana Highway Map for detail.



State Parks

- 1 Whitefish Lake
- 2 Lone Pine
- 3 Thompson Lakes (Logan)
- 4 Wayfarers
- 5 Lake Mary Ronan
- 6 Flathead Lake
 - West Shore
 - Elmo
 - Big Arm
 - Wild Horse Island
 - Yellow Bay
 - Finley Point
- 7 Thompson Falls
- 8 Frenchtown Pond
- 9 Council Grove
- 10 Placid Lake
 - Salmon Lake
- 11 Beavertail Hill
- 12 Fort Owen
- 13 Lost Creek
- 14 Bannack
- 15 Lewis & Clark Caverns
- 16 Missouri Headwaters
 - Madison Buffalo Jump
- 17 Canyon Ferry
- 18 Spring Meadow Lake
- 19 Hauser Lake
- 20 Holter Lake
- 21 Giant Springs
- 22 Ulm Pishkun
- 23 Smith River
- 24 Ackley Lake
- 25 Greycliff Prairie Dog Town
- 26 Cooney
- 27 Chief Plenty Coups
- 28 Pictograph Cave
- 29 Lake Elmo
- 30 Tongue River Reservoir
- 31 Rosebud Battlefield
- 32 Medicine Rocks
- 33 Makoshika
- 34 Hell Creek
- 35 Bears Paw Battlefield



For detailed information,
write or call
Montana Parks Division
1420 East 6th Ave.
Helena, MT 59620
406-444-3750

National Forests

- A Beaverhead
- B Bitterroot
- C Custer
- D Deerlodge
- E Flathead
- F Gallatin
- G Helena
- H Kootenai
- I Lewis & Clark
- J Lolo

Wilderness Areas

- 1 Anaconda-Pintler
- 2 Absaroka-Beartooth
- 3 Bob Marshall
- 4 Cabinet Mountain
- 5 Gates of the Mountains
- 6 Great Bear
- 7 Lee Metcalf
- 8 Mission Mountains
- 9 Scapegoat
- 10 Selway-Bitterroot
- 11 Welcome Creek
- 12 Rattlesnake Wilderness
- 13 Charles M. Russell National Wildlife Refuge

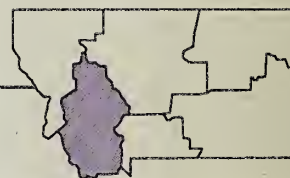
sed in Winter)

Private Campgrounds

Glacier Country

town	name / location	season	# tent	# rv	water	electric	sewer	dump	shower	laundry	store	additional information
ST. MARY cont.	Johnson's of St. Mary, 732-5565, N on the hill	4/1-10/31	80	70	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Restaurant & motel
	St. Mary KOA, 732-4422, 1 mi. W at Glacier Park	5/15-9/15	90	110	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Fishing, playground, camping cabins
ST. IGNATIUS	Mission Valley Campground, 745-4168, N at city limits	5/1-10/31	9	21	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
ST. REGIS	Campground St. Regis, 649-2470, W 1 1/2 mi.	All Yr.	15	60	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Playground, swimming pool, game room
SULA	Lost Trail Hot Springs, 821-3574, 10 mi. S on US 93	5/1-9/30	5	20	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Playground, pools, winter sports, fishing
	Sula Store & Campground, 821-3364, 13 mi. N of Idaho State Line US 93	All Yr.	12	15	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
SUPERIOR	Riverview Trailer Court, 822-4349, Center of town	All Yr.		3	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
SWAN LAKE	Deer Lick Resort, 886-2321, 16 mi. SE of Bigfork on Hwy 83	5/1-11/15		16	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Lake, boat rentals, swimming
	Swan Village Market & Campground, 886-2303, 17 mi. SE of Big Fork on Hwy 83	All Yr.	20	14	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Boat launch 1 mi. from campground
TROUT CREEK	Trout Creek Trailer Court, 827-3268, Located on east end of Cabinet Mtn. area	5/1-11/1	10	12	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
TROY	Halfway House, 295-4358, 15 mi. S of US 2 on Hwy 56	All Yr.	12	8	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Bar, cafe, fishing, boating
	La-Vi RV Park, 295-4252, Hwy 2 E	All Yr.	6	15	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	River fishing, store/restaurant nearby
	Lazy JC Ranch Camp KOA, 295-5758, 2 mi. N on US 2	5/15-10/1	30	30	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Playground, golf, horseback riding
	Troy KOA, 295-5959, 2 1/2 mi. W on Hwy 2 & Kootenai River	5/15-10/15	25	32	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Access to Kootenai River-excellent fishing
VICTOR	Rockford's Campground, 1 mi. S on US 93	5/10-10/15	6	6	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Fishing
	Tucker Crossin', 642-3089, 1714 US 93 S	5/1-10/31	16	15	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Adults only
WEST GLACIER	Glacier Campground, 387-5689, 1 mi. W on US 2	5/15-10/1	75	100	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Playground, movies, volleyball, barbeque
	Lake Five Resort, 387-5601, 3 mi. W, 540 Belton Stage Rd.	5/15-9/15	36	14	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Lake swimming, boat rentals
	San-Suz-Ed RV Park & Campground, 387-5280, 3 mi. W on US 2	5/1-10/30	20	33	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Waffle shop, sourdough pancakes, pies & bread
	West Glacier KOA, 387-5341, 2 1/2 mi. W of Glacier Park entrance	5/1-10/1	20	125	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Playground, camping kitchens, entertainment
WHITEFISH	Bonnie's View, 862-2565, 1 mi. S on US 93	4/15-11/15		6	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
	Diamond K RV Park, 862-4242, 3 mi. S on US 93	4/1-11/30	12	75	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
	Greenwood Trailer Park, US 2 E, signs	5/1-11/1	20	20	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Chuckwagon suppers & western show
	Witt's RV Park, 862-3917, Behind Greenwood Trailer Ct. S on Hwy 93	5/1-10/15	12	18	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	

Gold West Country



town	name / location	season	# tent	# rv	water	electric	sewer	dump	shower	laundry	store	additional information
ANACONDA	Anaconda Sportsman Park, 25 mi. S on Hwy 274	5/17-9/30		60	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Fishing
	Big Sky RV Park, 563-2967, 200 N. Locust, off I-90, Pintler Scenic Rt. Hwy 1	4/15-9/1	5	18	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Water hookup seasonal, walk to Washoe Park
	Denton's Point KOA, 563-6030, S Shore, Georgetown Lake, 2 1/2 mi. off Hwy 1	5/1-9/20	15	24	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Bar, restaurant, marina, fishing
	Georgetown Lake Campground, 563-7020, 16 mi. W on Hwy 1, 2 mi. on Denton's Point Rd	All Yr.	10	48	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Lodge, restaurant, lounge, motel
	Georgetown Lake KOA, 563-3402, 14 mi. W on Hwy 1, 2 mi. S at lake	All Yr.		65	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Lake, boating, fishing
	Hunter's Trailer Court, 563-8265, 2600 Cable Rd.			32								
AUGUSTA	Wagons West, 562-3295, 76 Main St., Hwy 287	5/1-11/1	50	50	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Restaurant, playground
	Diamond Bar X Guest Ranch, 562-3524, 21 mi. SW on Rt. 434	5/15-9/15	All	17	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Outdoor swimming pool, restaurant, lounge
BASIN	O'Neill, 225-3220, 2 blks W on Basin Creek Rd.	4/1-11/1	10	10	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
BOULDER	G & L Campground, 225-3232, Exit 164 off I-15	All Yr.		28	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
	Phil & Tim's RV Park, 225-3201, I-15 Boulder Exit, 1/4 mi. on Hwy 69	4/1-11/1		25	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
	Sunset Trailer Court, 225-3387, Exit 164 off I-15, 1/2 mi. to 4th & Adams	All Yr.		24	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	River, fishing
BUTTE	Butte KOA, 782-0663, Exit 126 off I-90, 1 blk N, 1 blk E	4/15-10/31	20	100	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Playground, fishing, swimming, chicken deli
	Winston RV Park, 494-3211, 5103 Warren, 2.1 mi. S of Harrison Ave.	4/15-11/15		10	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
CAMERON	Cameron Store & Cabins, 682-4811, 11 mi S of Ennis on Hwy 298	All Yr.		12	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Cafe, store, gas
	Madison Valley Cabins & RV Park, 682-4890, 35 mi. N of West Yellowstone on US 287	5/1-12/31		9	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
	Neely's Ranch, 685-3360, 30 mi. S off US 287 at Cliff Lake	6/1-11/30		6	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Cabins, hunting & fishing
	Slide Inn, 682-4804, 30 mi. S on US 287	5/1-10/30		23	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	On Madison River, blue-ribbon trout fishing
	West Fork Cabin Camp, 682-4802, Between Ennis & West Yellowstone on US 287	5/1-11/30	26	24	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Fishing, raft rentals, float trips, cabins
CLINTON	Bearmouth Chalet & RV Park, 825-9950, 30 mi. E of Missoula on I-90 Exit 138	All Yr.	20	46	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Restaurant, lounge, motel on Clark Fork River
	Ekstrom's Stage Station, 825-3183, 20 mi E of Missoula at Exit 126	4/1-10/1	25	25	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Pool, restaurant, playground
	Elkhorn RV Ranch, 825-3220, 20 mi. E of Missoula, 4 mi. S on Rock Creek Rd.	5/1-9/30	52	68	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Heated pool, fishing, trail rides, cabins
DEER LODGE	Deer Lodge KOA, 846-1629, 819 Main	5/1-10/15	75	50	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	River, fishing, shade
	Indian Creek Campground, 846-1871, Exit 184, 2 blks E, 1 blk S	5/1-11/30	30	100	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Fishing pond, level pull thrus

ST. REGIS



CAMPGROUND ST. REGIS, MT

Really Clean Restrooms — River Fishing

SHADY SITES — SWIMMING POOL

Deluxe Full Service Park

I-90, ST. REGIS EXIT 33 — "Left at flashing red light, follow signs"

Drawer A, St. Regis, MT 59866

Park Phone: (406)649-2470

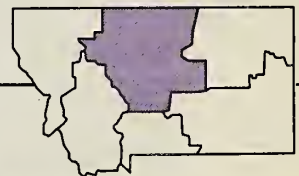
Midway between Seattle and Billings

Private Campgrounds

Gold West Country

town	name / location	season	# tent	# rv	water	electric	sewer	dump	shower	laundry	store	additional information
DILLON	Armstead Campground, 683-6674, 20 mi. S on I-15, Clark Canyon Exit	All Yr.	10	40	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Lake activities, access to Beaverhead River
	Beaverhead Marina & RV Park, 683-2951, Exit 44, 20 mi. S on Hwy 91 & I-15	4/1-9/1	5	35	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Lake, boating, fishing, beach
	Dillon KOA, 683-2749, 735 W. Park	3/1-11/30	30	68	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Pool, fishing, playground
	Skyline Trailer Court & Campground, 683-4692, 2 1/2 mi. N Hwy 91	All Yr.	7	38	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Playground, Good Sam, fishing, golf
	Southside RV Park, 683-2244, Exit 62 I-15, turn right on Poindexter	3/1-12/15	42	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Cable TV, fishing in Blacktail Deer Creek
EAST HELENA	Stewart RV Park, 227-5718, 3 mi. E on 287 & 12	5/1-9/30	8	20	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
ENNIS	Camper Corner, 682-4514, US 287 & MT 287	5/1-10/31	10	20	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Walking distance to Main Street, cable
	McCell's Elkhorn Trailer Park, 682-4273, 1/2 mi. S on Hwy 287	All Yr.	4	13	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Store, gas station, cable TV, propane
HELENA	Branding Iron RV Park, 443-9703, Exit 193, Cedar St., SW corner of Cedar St. Exchange	All Yr.	10	80	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Adult lounge, beer, wine, video poker
	El Doredo Sapphire Mine, 442-7960, 10 mi. NW of York	5/1-10/1	20	15	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Near Hauser Lake
	French Ber Mina, 475-3239, 6300 Canyon Ferry Rd.	6/1-9/15	100	30	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Sapphire mine, playground
	Helene KOA, 458-5110, 3 mi. N on Montana Ave.	All Yr.	30	70	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Pool, hot tub, movies, playground
	Kim's Marina & RV Park, 475-3723, 20 mi. E on Hwy 284	4/1-9/30	20	100	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Tennis court, boat rentals, bar, restaurant
	Lakeside Resort, 227-6076, 11 mi. NE on Hauser Lake	All Yr.	60	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Bar, restaurant, beach, boat ramp
	J & W Industries, 458-6390, 7568 Hauser Dam Rd., 14 mi. NE of I-15	5/1-9/30	4	12	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
JACKSON	Jackson Hot Springs Lodge, 834-3151, 48 mi. W of Dillon, Hwy 278	All Yr.	20	10	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Big Hole Battlefield, Bannack, hunting, fishing
LIMA	Kalbas Korners Trailer Court, 276-3535, I-15 & US 91	All Yr.		15	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Playground
LINCOLN	The Roost Cabins, 362-4308, 1/2 mi. S on Stemple Pass Rd.	All Yr.			•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
MCALLISTER	Lake Shore, 682-4424, 8 mi. N of Ennis on US 287, 2 1/2 mi. E of McAllister	5/1-10/1	8	32	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Marina, game room, boat rentals
	Meadow Lake Lodge, 682-4423, 1 mi. E of US 287	5/15-9/15	12	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Lake fishing
MELROSE	Angler's Paradise Lodge, 835-2677, 5 mi. S Old Hwy	5/1-11/30	20	12	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	River, fishing, hunting
	Sportsmen RV Park, 835-2141, N. Main St.	5/1-11/1	9	9	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
NORRIS	Beartre Hot Springs, 685-3303, 1/4 mi. E of Norris	5/1-11/30	10	15	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Large natural hot spring pool
PHILIPSBURG	Burg Motel & Trailer Court, 859-3959, 1005 West Broadway	4/1-9/30		11	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
POLARIS	Maverick Mountain RV Park, 834-3452, 3 mi. N of Polaris	7/1-9/30		8	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
SILVER STAR	Jefferson River Park, 684-5262, 9 mi. N of Twin Bridges	5/1-9/30	4	12	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Fishing, store nearby
TOWNSEND	Goose Bay Marina, 266-3645, 23 mi. N on Hwy 284	4/1-11/30	20	68	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Great trout & perch fishing
	Hidden Hollow Hide-A-Way, 266-3322, 7 mi. SE off US 287	4/1-9/15	2	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Working ranch, all ranch activities included
	Silos RV Park, 266-3100, 9 mi. N on Hwy 12/287	All Yr.	31	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Near Canyon Ferry Lake, restaurant nearby
TWIN BRIDGES	Stardust, 684-5648, 409 N. Main St.	5/1-11/1	10	9	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Beaverhead River 500 ft.
VIRGINIA CITY	Alder, Virginia City KOA, 842-5677, 9 mi. W on Hwy 287	All Yr.	20	39	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	5 major fishing rivers within 25 mi.
	Virginie City Campground, 843-5493, 1 mi. E on Hwy 287	4/1-12/1	20	45	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Horseback rides, gold panning
WHITEHALL	Pipestone Campground, 287-5224, 7 mi. W. at I-90 Exit 241	4/1-10/15	20	55	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Pool, game room, playground
WISDOM	Trails Rest, 689-3149, 1 mi. W of Big Hole Battlefield	6/1-8/31	18	18	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Excellent fishing nearby
WISE RIVER	H Bar J, In town	5/1-11/15		4	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Bar, cafe, fishing
	Wise River Club, 832-3258, In town	5/1-11/15		4	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Bar, cafe, fishing

Charlie Russell Country



town	name / location	season	# tent	# rv	water	electric	sewer	dump	shower	laundry	store	additional information
BELT	Fort Ponderosa Campground, 277-3232, 20 mi. SE of Great Falls, 1 mi. off US 87 & 89	5/1-10/1	25	25	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Playground, fishing, swimming
CASCADE	Atkinson Park, 468-2808, adjacent to I-15 in town	All Yr.		10	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Swimming pool, play area
	Cascade Trailer Park, 468-2254, 25 mi. S of Great Falls I-15 Exit 254	All Yr.		6	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
CHOTEAU	Choteau KOA, 466-2615, 3/4 mi. E on Hwy 221	5/1-10/1	20	50	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Playground, mini-golf, pool, dinosaur country
	Choteau Park & Campground, 466-2510, 52 mi. NW of Great Falls on US 89	5/1-9/1	30	30	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Park, playground, swimming pool nearby
FORT BELKNAP AGENCY	Fort Belknap Rest Area, 4 mi. E of Harlem on Hwy 2 & 66	All Yr.		10+	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Recreation area including swimming pool nearby
GRASSRANGE	Little Montana Truckstop, 428-2270, Hwy 87 at Grassrange	All Yr.	4	12	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Cafe, gas & diesel
GREAT FALLS	Dick's Trailer & RV Park, 452-0333, I-15 Exit 278	All Yr.	3	100	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
	Great Falls KOA, 727-3191, E edge of town at 10th Ave. S & 51st St.	All Yr.	18	133	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Playground, camping kitchens
	L'n Eve Travel Trailer Park, 12th St. NW	All Yr.		11	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	

DILLON

**SKY LINE
RV PARK**
DILLON, MT

from I-15 Exit 63, one block south to Exxon station, then turn right on Old U.S. 91N. Then 2 1/2 mile on paved road.

*38 Sites with full hookups * 30 amp & 30 amp breakers

* all pull through sites * public phone * tables * toilets

* hot showers * laundry * tents welcome

OPEN ALL YEAR Rates: \$10 / 2 people

Charlie Russell Country

Yellowstone Country

BIG TIMBER



MODERN CAMP & R.V. PARK
(406) 932-4387

Highway 298 - 2 1/2 miles south of Big Timber, MT.

WELCOME

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 SSSY TENT SITES
 AUNDROMAT
 T+SHADE+GRASS



GALLATIN GATEWAY



• Modern Cabins • TV • Kitchenettes • Restaurant • Picnic Grounds
• Trailer Parking • Propane • Fishing Licenses

Located 25 miles South of Bozeman on U.S. 191
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Gallatin Gateway, Montana 59730 • 763-4243



*you are invited
to visit us while
you enjoy Montana*

Billings Metro



Apr. 15-Oct. 15 (406)252-3104
Off I-90 at 27th St. Exit, go S 200 yds. to
Garden Ave. Turn R follow signs. KOA,
3087 Garden Ave., Billings, MT 59101

Bozeman



Open All Year (406)587-3030
At Bozeman Hot Springs on US 191. 8 mi.
W of Bozeman. KOA, 133 Lower Rainbow
Rd., Bozeman, MT 59715

Choteau

May 1-Oct. 1 (406)466-2615
3/4 mi. East of Choteau on Hwy. 221 off
Hwy. 287 and 89.
Choteau KOA, Choteau, MT 59422

Deer Lodge



May 1-Oct. 15 (406)846-1629
Halfway between Yellowstone & Glacier
Nat'l Parks. Take exit at either end of town.
KOA, Park Street, Deer Lodge, MT 59722

Dillon



Mar. 1-Nov. 30 (406)683-2749
Shortest Route to Yellowstone & Glacier
Parks. Exit 63, or Hwy. 41 S on Montana
St., 1st Right past Beaverhead Museum.
Dillon KOA, 735 W. Park St., Dillon, MT

Great Falls



Open All Year (406)727-3191
On SE edge of city, on 87-89. From I-15 use
10th Ave. S., go east on 51st St.
KOA, 1500 51st St. S., Great Falls, MT
59406

Hardin



Apr. 1-Oct. 1 (406)665-1635
I-90 take Exit 495 go 1 1/2 mi. N. on Hwy.
47. KOA, R.R. 1, Hardin, MT 59034

Helena



Open All Year (406)458-5110
From N or S (I-15) take Lincoln Rd. W 1/4
mi. then L on Montana Ave. From E or W
(US 12) take MT Ave. 4 mi. N of Helena.
Helena KOA, 5820 N. Montana Ave.,
Helena, MT 59601

Livingston



May 15-Oct. 15 (406)222-0992
Nine miles S of Livingston on Yellowstone
Park Road (Hwy 89). Then 2 mi. east. (If
road close for bridge construction, take 540
East River Road). KOA, Rt. 38, Box 2089,
Livingston, MT 59047

Polson



April 1-Oct. 15 (406)883-2151
1/2 mi. North of Polson on Hwy 93.
Polson KOA, P.O. Box 317, Polson, MT
59860

Missoula



Open All Year (406)549-0881
From I-90 take Exit 101, 1 1/2 mi. to KOA
sign. From US 93N and 12E turn left on
Reserve St. 4 miles to KOA sign.
KOA, 3695 Tina Ave., Missoula, MT 59802

West Glacier

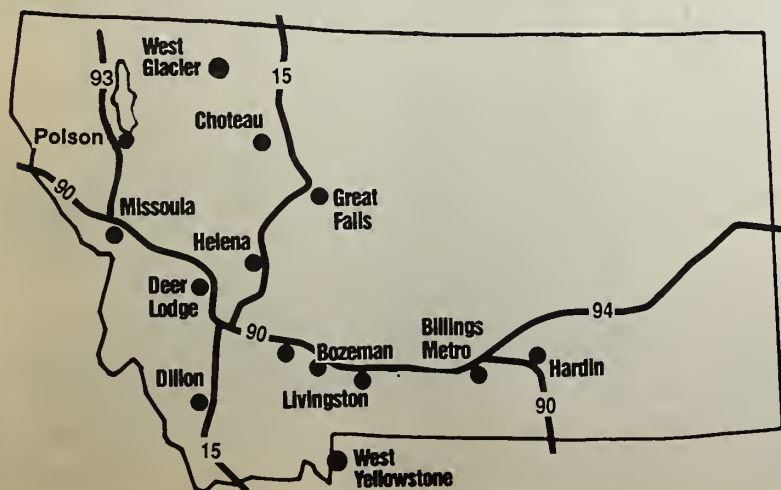


May 1-Sept. 30 (406)387-5341
2 1/2 mi. West of West Glacier on Hwy. 2,
then 1 mi. S on paved road.
KOA, P.O. Box 215, West Glacier, MT 59936

Yellowstone Park



May 22-Sept. 22 (406)646-7607 or 646-7606
6 mi. W. of West Park entrance on US 20.
KOA, Box 327, West Yellowstone, MT 59758



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a campsite ready
for you.*



*All the fun
and economy of
camping out with all
the comfort and security
of sleeping in.*

Private Campgrounds

Yellowstone Country

town	name / location	season	# tent	# rv	water	electric	sewer	dump	shower	laundry	store	additional information
LIVINGSTON cont.	Rock Canyon RV Park, 222-1096, 2½ mi. S on US 89	5/1-10/1	15	25	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Fishing
	S-S Motel & Trailer Park, 222-0591, S Main, View Vista Dr.	5/1-9/1	13	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	City pool, park, fairgrounds, golf course
	Sunset Corral, Off I-90 at US 89 Exit, N 1 blk to Rogers Lane	4/15-10/1	29	49	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
	Windmill Park, 222-2784, 1 mi. S on US 89, turn at RR xing, Billman Lane	All Yr.	10	15	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
MANHATTAN	Manhattan Camper Court, 284-6930, I-90 Ex. 288, N 500 ft. to Wooden Shoe Ln., W 1 blk	All Yr.	5	25	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Playground, propane, ice
MCLEOD	McLeod Resort, 932-6167, 16 mi. S of Big Timber on Hwy 298	5/1-10/30	10	15	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Fishing, cabins, apts., horseshoe pits
RED LODGE	Perry's RV Park, 446-2722, 1½ mi. S on US 212	5/15-9/15	10	40	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Fishing, hiking
	Red Lodge KOA, 446-2364, 4 mi. N on US 212	6/1-10/1	20	50	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Pool, playground
REEDPOINT	C & R Campground, 326-2318, I-90	5/1-10/31	5	15	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Playground, restaurant
	Jew Jake's Campground, 326-2288, 100 ft. off I-90	All Yr.	6	20	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	¼ mile from river, saloon, gas
ROCKVALE	Rockcreek Campground, 962-3459, 11 mi. S of Laurel, Jct. 212 & 310	4/15-10/15	30	24	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Fishing, rec. room, playground
THREE FORKS	Murphy's Trailer Court, 285-6625/3444, 309 S. Main St.	All Yr.	3	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Ceramic shop, restaurant nearby
	Three Forks KOA, 285-3611, I-90 Exit 274, 1 mi. S on Hwy 287	5/1-10/1	20	50	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Swimming, playground, sauna
WEST YELLOWSTONE	Ambassador RV, 646-7558, 4 blks. from West Entrance	6/1-9/30	15	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
	Branding Iron Motel & Trailer Park, 646-9411 or 800-231-5991, 201 Canyon Ave.	5/1-10/15	19	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Restaurants, shopping nearby
	Campfire Lodge Resort, 646-7258, 8 mi. N on US 191, 14 mi. W on Hwy 287	5/15-9/25	17	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Fishing, boating
	Cliff Lake Resort, 682-4982, 30 mi. NW on US 87	5/1-11/30	5	7	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Fishing, boat rentals, horseback riding
	Driftwood, 646-7892, On Madison Ave.	5/1-10/15	31	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
	Hebgen Lk. Motel & Cpg., 646-9250, 8 mi. W of Hwy 191 & 287 on N shore of Hebgen L.	5/1-9/30	30	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
	Hideaway RV Campground, 646-9049, Corner of Gibbon & Electric	5/1-9/1	3	14	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Quiet location
	Lionshead RV & Dence Resort, 646-7296, 7½ mi. W on Hwy 20	All Yr.	50	144	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Picnic pavilion w/barbecue, tours
	Madison Arm Resort, 646-9328, 3 mi. N on US 191, 5½ mi. W	5/15-10/1	25	40	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Swimming beach, marina
	Rustic RV Campground, 646-7387, On US 20 to Idaho				•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Playground
	Wagon Wheel Campground & Cabins, 646-7872, 408 Gibbon	4/15-10/15	10	38	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Game room
	Western Motel & RV Park, 646-7776, Madison Ave.	5/1-11/1	14	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Easy walking distance to downtown
	Yellowstone Cabins & RV Park, 646-9350, 504 US 20	6/1-9/30	9	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Walking distance to West Yellowstone
YELLOWSTONE PARK	Yellowstone Holiday, 646-7237, 8 mi. N on US 191, 5 mi. W on US 287	5/15-10/15	10	23	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Marina, horseshoes, boat rentals
	Yellowstone Park KOA, 646-7606, 6 mi. W on US 20	5/1-9/30	52	188	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	BBQ, pool, hot tub, gameroom
	Fishing Bridge RV Park, 307-344-7311, Near north shore of Yellowstone Lake	5/24-9/8	348	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Only RV park in Yellowstone

Missouri River Country

town	name / location	season	# tent	# rv	water	electric	sewer	dump	shower	laundry	store	additional information
CIRCLE	Scheer's Trailer Court, 485-2285, N end of 1st Ave. N	4/1-10/31	5	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
GLASGOW	Shady Rest RV Park, 228-2769, Hwy 2 E	All Yr.	7	4	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Tourist information, quiet
	Trails West, 228-2778, 1½ mi. W of Glasgow on US 2, Skylark Rd.	All Yr.	15	35	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Playground, swimming pool
JORDAN	Jordan Mobile Home Park, 557-2480, E end of town	4/1-11/1	4	6	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
	Kamp Kettle, 557-2851, ½ mi. S, W of bridge	6/15-9/1	5	8	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Cafe nearby
MALTA	Bon Soir Motel & Campground, 654-1302, 800-821-7475, US 2 W	All Yr.	40	30	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	River fishing
POPLAR	Buds RV Park, 768-3392, 1 mi. E on Hwy 2	4/1-10/30	2	10	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
SACO	Sleeping Buffalo Resort, 527-3370, 10 mi. W on Hwy 2	All Yr.	80	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Swimming, golf course, bar, cafe, waterslide
WOLF POINT	R.B.W. Campground, 525-3740, 7 mi. E on US 2	5/1-11/1	8	14	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
	Rancho Motel & Campground, 653-2500, 1 mi. W on US 2	4/1-10/1	29	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
ZORTMAN	Buckhorn Store & Cabins, 673-3162, 50 mi. S of Malta	3/1-11/30	4	5	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Pegasus Gold Mine, fishing, hunting

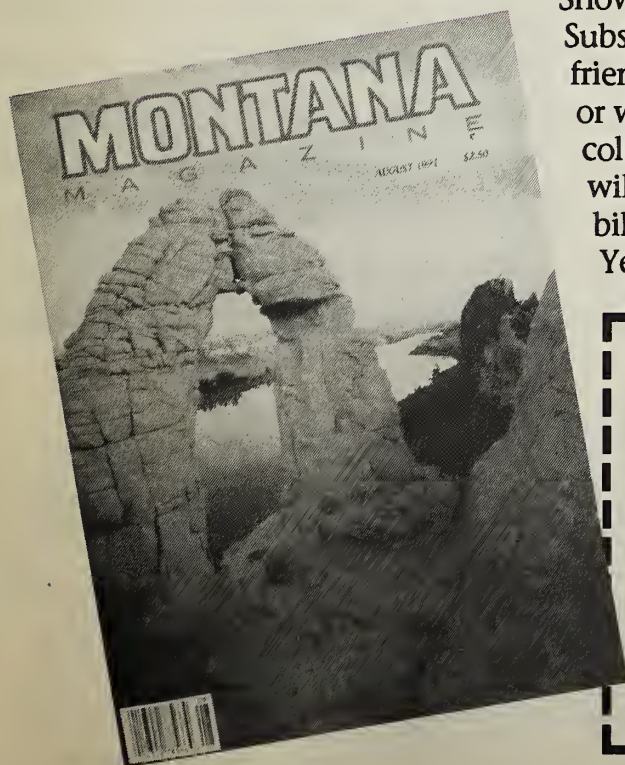
Custer Country

town	name / location	season	# tent	# rv	water	electric	sewer	dump	shower	laundry	store	additional information
ASHLAND	Lemonade Springs Campground, 784-2567, 18 mi. E on Hwy 212	6/1-11/25	10	11	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Hunting, hiking
BAKER	Phoebe Trailer Court, 775-6768, S of town near fairgrounds	All Yr.	4	15	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Swimming pool, beach & fairgrounds nearby
BALLANTINE	Longbranch Truck Stop, 967-3855, I-94 Exit 14, 20 mi. E of Billings	All Yr.	18	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Gas station, restaurant, bar, open 24 hrs.
BILLINGS	Big Sky Campground, 259-4110, Exit 446 from I-90	All Yr.	21	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Restaurant, gift shop, grass sites
	Billings Metro KOA, 252-3104, 27th St. Exit from I-90, S to Garden Ave., turn rt.	4/15-10/15	48	120	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Pool, game room, mini-golf, breakfast
	Garden Avenue Campground, 259-0878, ¼ mi. S at 27th St. Exit	4/15-10/1	65	65	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	

Custer Country

town	name / location	season	# tent	# rv	water	electric	sewer	dump	shower	laundry	store	additional information
BILLINGS cont.	Trailer Village, 248-8685, 2025 S. Billings Blvd.	All Yr.		30	•	•	•	•	•	•		Playground
BROADUS	Town & Country Trailer Village, 436-2595, 1 blk W of Hwy 212, next to rodeo grounds Weyside Park, 436-2510, 2 mi. W ¼ mi. S of Jct 212 & 59	5/1-11/30	12	25	•	•	•	•	•	•		Playground
		All Yr.	20	10	•	•	•	•	•	•		Golf nearby
CROW AGENCY	Crow's Nest, 638-2270, US 212 at I-90 Little Big Horn Camp, 638-2232, Custer Battlefield Exit	All Yr.	30	40	•	•	•	•	•	•		Restaurant, gift shop, gas, tepee rentals
		All Yr.	50	19	•	•	•	•	•	•		Motel units on site, gift store
EKALAKA	Clima Camper Court, 775-6231, W of town near fairgrounds	5/1-12/1	4	12	•	•	•	•	•	•		Swimming pool, Medicine Rocks nearby
FORSYTH	Wagon Wheel Campsites, 356-2454, I-94 Exit 95, ¼ mi. S of Interstate	4/1-10/1	20	20	•	•	•	•	•	•		Indoor pool, restaurants, playgrounds
FORT SMITH	Cottonwood Camp, 666-2391, 3 mi. N on Hwy 313	All Yr.	50	15	•	•	•	•	•	•		
GLENDDIVE	Gentry's, 14 mi. NE on the Yellowstone Glendive Campground, 365-6721, 300 ft. N of I-94 Exit 215 Green Valley Campground, 365-4156, ½ mi. N on Hwy 16 from I-94 Exit 213 Spring Grova Trailer Court, 365-2018, Frontage Rd. off I-94, Business Loop	All Yr.	50	4	•	•	•	•	•	•		Cabin rentals, fishing, rock hunting
		4/15-10/15	10	50	•	•	•	•	•	•		Playground, waterslide, restaurants nearby
		4/1-10/30	42	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		Playground, waterslide, pool, golf nearby
		All Yr.	15	15	•	•	•	•	•	•		Close to mall, playground
HARDIN	Grandview Campground, 665-2489, Exit 495, then S on Hwy 313 Hardin KOA, 665-1635, Exit 495 off I-90, 1¼ mi. N on Hwy 47	All Yr.	40	60	•	•	•	•	•	•		Gift shop, pool nearby
		4/1-10/1	19	53	•	•	•	•	•	•		Playground, pool, camping cabins
LAUREL	Pelican RV Park, 245-4531, 10 mi. W of Billings on I-90, 3 mi. E of Laurel	5/1-11/1		36	•	•	•	•	•	•		Truck stop, restaurant, bar
MILES CITY	Big Sky Campground, 232-9849, Jct. I-94 & US 12, Exit 141 Miles City KOA Campground, 232-3991, W end of town	4/1-11/1	20	24	•	•	•	•	•	•		
		4/1-10/31	26	64	•	•	•	•	•	•		Playground, swimming pool
RICHEY	Richey Trailer Court, SW end of town, on Hwy 200	All Yr.	5	5	•	•	•	•	•	•		
RYEGATE	Scheff's RV Court, 568-2568, 29 mi. E of Harlowton	All Yr.		4	•	•	•	•	•	•		
TERRY	Diamond Motel & Campground, 637-5407 Roy's Campground, 637-5829, Exit 176	5/1-9/30	20	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		Restaurant next door
		5/1-10/30	8	12	•	•	•	•	•	•		
WIBAU	Volley Motel & Trailer Court, 795-2522, ½ mi. S of Wibaux on Hwy 7	5/1-9/30	20	12	•	•	•	•	•	•		Playground, swings, slide

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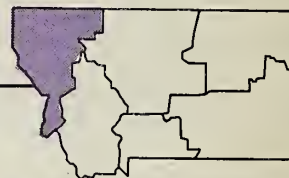
Let an outfitter show you the time of your life on a Montana adventure vacation.

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Under each of Montana's vacation countries are listed the names and addresses of outfitters who provide recreational services within that country. For quick reference, refer to the map on page 20. All Montana phone numbers are reached by area code 406.

For more information contact: Montana Board of Outfitters, Department of Commerce, 111 North Jackson, Helena, MT 59620, 444-3738; or Montana Outfitters & Guides Association, P.O. Box 9070, Helena, MT 59604, 449-3578.

Glacier Country



town	name / address / telephone	upland bird hunts	waterfowl	big game hunts	bow hunts	guest ranch	overnight packs	float trips	winter sports	trail rides	fishing	additional information
ALBERTON 59820	Hola in the Wall Lodge, Frank E. DeLeo, Box 8, 728-5203			•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Lodge with cabins
BIGFORK 59911	Crana Mtn. Guida Sarvica, F. W. Buchanan, 385 Crane Mtn. Rd., 837-6933 No Cutthroats Outfitting, Craig Clevidence, P.O. Box 1443, 837-3588 Running Waters Ranch, 2115 Riverside Rd., 755-2041 Sea Bird Charters, P.O. Box 1168, 837-5033			•	•	•	•					• Charter boat on Flathead Lake • Fly-fishing; float fishing on the Swan & Flathead • Entirely handicapped accessible
BROWNING 59417	Northern High Plains Outfitters, Ed Anderson, Box 152, 338-7413	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Full service sport shop
CHARLO 59824	Cheff Guest Ranch, Mick Cheff, 4274 Eagle Pass Trail, 644-2557			•	•	•	•				•	Hourly and day rides
CLINTON 59825	L Diamond E Ranch Outfitters, Dan J. Ekstrom, Box 885, 825-6295			•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Sapphire mining pack trips
COLUMBIA FALLS 59912	Glacier Fishing Charters, James Landwehr, 375 Jensen Rd., 892-2377 Great Northern Llama Co., Steve Roling, 1795 Middle Rd., 755-9044 Salmon Forks Outfitters, William H. Tidwell, 475 Elk Park Rd., 892-5468 Skyline Outfit, Roland Cheek, Box 1880, 892-5560			•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	• Giant lake trout our specialty • Guided llama pack trips • Bob Marshall Wilderness—pack trips, hunting and fishing • Bob Marshall Wilderness hunts, float-fishing on Flathead
CONDON 59826	Buck Creek Guida Service, Thomas W. Parker, HCR 31 Box 606, 754-2471 Holland Lake Outfitters, Ken Mitchell, Box 410, 754-2533	•		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	• Environmental awareness education • Bob Marshall Wilderness hunts
CONNER 59827	Bunky Ranch Outfitters, Smut or June Warren, Box 215, 821-3312 Thunder Bow Outfitters, C. Zikan, Star Route HC 10, Box 37, 821-3890			•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
CORAM 59913	Flying Eagle Ranch, Stella Hislop, Box 141-M, 387-5727			•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
CORVALLIS 59828	Continental Divide Outfitters, Walter D. Easley, Box 462, 961-4867 Five Bears Outfitters, Gary Peters, P.O. Box 325, 961-4778 Timbarlina Outfitters, W.L. Newman, 1379 Summerdale Rd., 961-4642			•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	• Bunkhouse & breakfast available • Backcountry & lodge hunts • Also service Gold West Country
DARBY 59829	Allaman's Montana Adventure Trips, K.C. Allaman, West Fork Rt., 821-3763 East Fork Outfitters, J.E. Fonken, Box 572, 821-4538 Montana Riverband Outfitters, Bob Zikan Sr., Darby Bridge Rd., 821-4541 Piquetta Ck. Ranch Hunting Lodge, L.D. Rogers, Piquette Ck. R., 821-3476 Rainbow Guide Service, Joe Biner, Star Route, 821-4643	•		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	• Llama treks, photo trips, buffalo hunts • Anaconda-Pintler Wilderness pack trips • Secluded ranch on the Bitterroot River • Daily trail rides • Catch & release fly-fishing, disabled access, guest cabin

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Glacier Country

town	name / address / telephone	upland bird hunts	waterfowl	big game hunts	bow hunts	guest ranch	overnight packs	float trips	winter sports	trail rides	fishing	additional information
DARBY cont.	WW Outfitters, Bill & Billy White, Box 507, 821-3007 West Fork Outfitters, David Walker, Box 644, 349-2816	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Guest ranch, family vacations
DEBORIA 59830	Big Cir Outfitters & Lodge, Stanley A. Crispinski, Box 157, 678-4364	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
EAST GLACIER 59434	Bear Creek Outfitters & Guest Ranch, W. Beck, Box 151, 1-800-445-7379 Great Bear Outfitters, Bill & Brent Wyrick, Box 79, 226-9220 Great Divide Guiding & Outfitters, Richard Jackson, Box 315, 226-4487	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Hourly trail rides Combination cattle drives/pack trips
EAST MISSOULA 59802	Rocky Mountain Whitewater, Pat Doty, 1905 Ola Dr., 728-2984	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Equipped to accommodate disabled persons
EUREKA 59917	Buckhorn Ranch, Harry Workman, Box 84, 899-3762 Don Carvey Outfitting, Don Carvey, Box 459, 889-3334 Hawkins Outfitters, Steve Hawkins, Box 187, 296-2642 Kootenai High Country Hunting, David Hayward, Box 1428, 889-3873	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Family summer pack trips into Kootenai Forest Bob Marshall Wilderness hunts Lodge rental; also service Missouri R. Country
GREENOUGH 59836	F & A Outfitters, Inc., Charles Abbott, Star Rt. Box 336, 244-5504	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
HAMILTON 59840	Bar 44 Outfitters, John V. Rose, 1380 Skalkano Rd., 363-3522 Bill Mitchell Outfitters, Bill Mitchell, 364 McCarthy Loop, 363-4129 Catch Montana, John Adza, Box 428, 800-882-7844 Doug Swisher, Box 725, 363-2578 FWL Outfitters, Fred Wright, Box 1248, 363-5191 RL Outfitters, Dwain Rennaker, SE 1834 Old Darby Rd., 363-1829 Rocky Mountain Adventures, Inc., Dan J. Shoemaker, Box 1574, 363-3344 Trout Fishing Only, Bill Abbot, Box 1332, 363-2408 Walking Y Outfitters, Ernest Busek, 533 Lost Horse Rd., 363-5149 Wynn M. Reinbolt Fly-Fishing, SW 770 Gold Creek Loop, 363-4159	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Bed & breakfast, guide school Summer pack trips in Selway Bitterroot Wilderness Horseback rides to dinner Also service Custer Country Trout fishing statewide Trail rides, camping Formal instruction available
HAUGAN 59842	Broken Heart Guest Ranch, Bernard Mieslanik, Box 107, 678-4325	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
HELENA 59601	Wild Country Outfitters, Jerry E. Strong, 5827 Hwy 12 W, 442-1293	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Also service Russell & Missouri R. Countries
HERON 59844	Mark Kayser Outfitting, Mark Kayser, Box 145, 847-2787 Wilderness Lodge, Rick A. Vandermeiden, 620 Elk Creek Rd., 847-2277	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Christian outfitter; wholesome camp atmosphere Fishing pack trips into wilderness lakes
HUNGRY HORSE 59919	The Skyline Outfit Inc., Box 391, 387-4051	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
KALISPELL 59901	A-1 Fishing, George Goggins, 1111 Y Springwood Rd., 755-5214 B & D Outfitters, Robert D. Frisk, Box 455, 752-7842 Babcock Creek Outfitters, LeRoy Books, Box 1564, 862-7813 Big Dipper Charters, Dave Minister, 812 10th St. E., 257-3234 Curtiss Outfitters, Ron Curtiss, 325 Bench Dr., 257-8215 Flathead Lk. Charter Service, Jeff Rach, 280 Hwy 82, 857-3439 Great Bear Outfitters, Greg Nelson, Box 2365, 755-6656 Lion Creek Outfitters, 232 South Meridian, 755-3723 Williams Outfitters, 1905 Foothills Rd., 257-2027	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	3 boats with full canvas tops and private facilities Charter fishing Bob Marshall Wilderness hunts Giant lake trout our speciality Wilderness float fishing trips Charter boat, Flathead Lake, trophy trout Wilderness big game hunts; float fishing trips 8-day wilderness hunts
KILA 59920	Fishing Fever Charters, Box 43, 755-6728 Imperial Outfitters, Larry D. Henderson, Box 145, 858-2255	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Charter fishing Flathead Lake Bob Marshall Wilderness hunts; covered wagon trips
LIBBY 59923	Koocanusa Outfitters, 23911 Hwy 37, 293-7548 Kootenai Angler, David Blackburn, 13548 Hwy 37, 293-7578	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Both guided hunts & drop camps Fly-fishing specialist on Kootenai River
LOLO 59847	The Montana Fisherman, Carl A. Mann, 234 Ridge Way, 273-6966	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Charter boat on Flathead; also service Missouri R. Country
MARION 59925	American Hunting Service, J. Prevost, 200 Hubert Dam Road, 854-2836 Hargrave Cattle and Guest Ranch, 300 Thompson Riv. Vly., 858-2284	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Cattle drives
MISSOULA 59801	Diamond N Outfitters, Brian D. Nelson, Box 20193, 543-3887 Ecollama, David Harmon, Box 8342, 542-1625 Five Valley Flyfishers, Chris Nelson, 1438 Harrison, 728-9434 Great Western Flyfishing, R.C. Anderson, 12075 O'Brien Ck. Rd., 549-5414 John S. Erp, Box 9138, 721-1320 River Resource Outfitters, Mark E. Jones, 3813 Timberlane, 543-3358 Streamside Anglers, Miller Barber/Mark Jones, 501 S. Orange St., 728-1085 John Perry's Westslope Outfitters, Box 20080, 549-9703, 822-3313	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Rocky Mountain fly-fishing expeditions, float or wade Gourmet meals; unmatched wilderness; theme trips Float trips on Clark Fork, Big Hole, Blackfoot, Bitterroot Specialize in fly-fishing in Western Montana Cabin on Rock Creek Lodge with 800 acres and 2 private ponds Also service Gold West Country

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Licensed Outfitters

Glacier Country

town	name / address / telephone	upland bird hunts	waterfowl	big game hunts	bow hunts	guest ranch	overnight packs	float trips	winter sports	trail rides	fishing	additional information
MISSOULA cont.	Western Waters, Gerald R. Nichols, Jr., 333 Knowles St., 728-6161 West Fork Outfitters, Ronald M. Corr, Box 4585, 251-5542 Wilderness Outfitters, S. & T. Elser, 3800 Rattlesnake Dr., 549-2820			•	•	•	•	•	•		•	Day or extended trips on Clark Fork, Madison, more 6-8 day wilderness pack trips
NOXON 59853	Bull River Outfitters, Doug Peterson, Box 227, Bull River, 847-2641 Russ Willis & Associates, Inc., Bighorn Lodge, 710 Bull River Rd., 847-5597 Wayne Hill Outfitting, Wayne Hill, Box 592, 847-5563	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	Specialize in big whitetail bucks Guide school Specialize in archery elk and mountain lion
PLAINS 59859	Josephson Outfitting, Ed & Lisa Josephson, Box 1059, 826-3494 Rocky Point Outfitters, Orvall Kuester, 837 Swamp Creek Rd., 826-3221	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	Upland game hunts & photography
POLSON 59860	Monture Face Outfitters, Rod Johnson, Box 1122, 883-6226, 883-5675			•	•	•	•	•	•		•	
REXFORD 59930	MBK Outfitters, Mike B. Krueger, 4155 W. Kootenai Rd., 889-3297			•	•	•	•	•	•		•	
RONAN 59864	Glacier Outfitters, Gary Abbey, 3242 Back Road, 675-2142			•	•	•	•	•	•		•	
SEELEY LAKE 59868	Double Arrow Outfitters, Jack Rich, Box 495, 677-2317 Mission Mountain Outfitters, Richard R. Bishop, HC31 Box 2695, 754-2444 Swan River Trophy Hunters, Gene Zahrt, Box 53, 677-2865 Bob Marshall Wilderness Ranch, Virgil Burns, 745-4466	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	Excellent trophy hunts
ST. IGNATIUS 59865	Rugg's Outfitting, Ray Rugg, 4530 Mission Creek Rd., 745-4160	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	
ST. REGIS 59866	Lazy R Bar, Box 426, 649-2483 Simons Outfitters, Jack Simons, 84 Mullan Gulch Rd., 649-2329	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	
STEVENSVILLE 59870	Anglers Afloat, Inc., David J. Odell, 2742 Alpenglow Road, 777-3421 Bitterroot Anglers, Andy Carlson, 300 College St., 777-2341 Circle KBL Outfitters, Bob Lamberson, Box 25, 777-5969 Del Cameron Outfitters, Del Cameron, 1209 Iron Cap Rd., 777-5224 Lone Tree Outfitting, Larry Pendleton, 1531 Iron Cap Rd., 777-3906 Montana Wilderness Outfitters, David Kozub, 4606 Watt Lane, 777-3673	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	Can arrange streamside cabin rentals Fly-fishing schools & guide schools Hourly and daily rides Winter mountain lion hunts Can accommodate handicapped sportsmen
THOMPSON FALLS 59873	Flat Iron Outfitting, Jerry C. Shively, 3 Golf Course Rd., 827-3666	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	Day trips—mountain lake fishing & photography
TROUT CREEK 59874	5/S Outfitters, Glen E. Smith, 366 Swamp Creek Rd., 827-4908 Jerry Malson Outfitting, Jerry Malson, 22 Swamp Creek Rd., 847-5582	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	Licensed guide school
TROY 59935	Kootenai River Outfitters, C.E. Dare, 695 Milnor Lake Rd., 59935, 295-4487 McAfee Lodge, Bill McAfee, 27744 Yaak River Rd., 295-4880	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	Fish/float Kootenai R., charter boat fishing on L. Koocanusa
VICTOR 59875	Golden Eagle Adventures, Bob Crick, Box 266, 642-3233 Lazy T4 Outfitters, Spence Trogon, Box 116, 642-3586 R.L. Sourbrine & Sons Outfitters, 1990 Meridian Rd., 642-3251 Rick Wemple Outfitting, 1765 Pleasant View Dr., 642-3869 Wildlife Outf., J. Wemple, 1765 Pleasant View Dr., 642-3262, 800-955-8505	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	Selway-Bitterroot fishing; wildlife photography tours Private ranch fall hunting, fly-fish, float, wade Trophy lake trout Selway-Bitterroot pack trips, bed & breakfast
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Glacier Country

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WEST GLACIER cont.	Glacier Wilderness Guides, R. Gayner, Box 535M, 800-521-RAFT, 888-5466											Backpacking Glacier National Park, combination adventures
	Great Northern Float Trips, Reno Baldwin, Box 278, 800-535-0303											Raft trip-wilderness trip combos, hiking & horseback
	Spotted Bear Outfitters, H. William Armstrong, Box 293, 888-5588											Bob Marshall & Great Bear Wilderness areas
	Wild River Adventures, Bob Jordon, Box 272, 800-826-2724											North/Middle Fork Flathead River trips
WHITEFISH 59937	Bootjack Outfitters, John C. Bartlett, 225 Montana Ave., 862-4461											Serious bowhunting
	Whitefish Lake Fishing, Jim Crumal, 355 Twin Bridges Rd., 862-5313											
COEUR D'ALENE, ID 83814	Castaway Fly Shop, N. 3620 Fruitland Lane, 208-765-3133											Float fishing on western Montana rivers
SALMON, ID 83467	Wilderness River Outfitters, Joe Tonsmeire, Box 871, 208-756-3959											
EXCELSIOR, MN 55331	Sun Trek, John Humble, 5460 Teal Circle, 612-470-0765											Bird hunting

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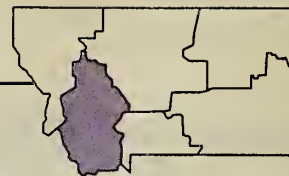
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Licensed Outfitters



town	name / address / telephone	upland bird hunts	waterfowl	big game hunts	bow hunts	guest ranch	overnight packs	float trips	winter sports	trail rides	fishing	additional information
ALDER 59710	Buckboard Guest Ranch, Linda Larson, Box 136, 842-5384 Upper Canyon Outfitting, Donna T. McDonald, Box 109, 800-735-6514			•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Guided & unguided hunts; families welcome
ANACONDA 59711	Peterson's Fairmont Corral, Vicki Peterson, Star Rt. E., 797-3377 Pintler Wilderness Outfitting, Inc., 9010-3 Hwy 1 West, 563-7567			•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Breakfast & evening trail rides, barbecues, barn dances
AUGUSTA 59410	Benchmark Wilderness Guest Ranch, Bud Heckman, Box 190, 562-3336 Ford Creek Outfitters, Liz Barker, Box 329, 562-3672 Mark Young's Hunting Services, Box 211, 562-3250 Ron Mills Outfitting, Ron Mills, Box 2, 562-3335 Neal Outfitters, Danielle Neal, Box 293, 562-3645	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Education programs; fly-in catering, reunions • Two cabins on a trout stream • Drop camps on private lands • Mountain lion hunts
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BIG SKY 59716	Gallatin River Guides, Steven French, Box 212, Hwy 191, 995-2290	•	•					•				• Fishing charter boat on Hebgen & Yellowstone lakes
BUTTE 59701	Rush's Lakeview Guest Ranch, 2905 Harrison, 276-3300, 494-2585 Tom's Sport Shop, Tom Bugni, 1210 Harrison Ave., 782-6251	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•			• Outfitter & guide schools • Float, fish on Big Hole, Jefferson, Madison, & Gallatin rivers
CAMERON 59720	ICR Outfitters, Wade Durham, Box 534, 682-7223 Lost Fork Ranch, Merritt G. Pride, 11-12 Hwy 287 N., 682-7690 Willow Springs Outfitters, Gordon L. Patton, Box 591, 682-4884	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•			• Specialize in elk & deer hunting • Horseback riding & instruction
CLINTON 59825	JM Bar Outfitters, Jeff Freeman, 23945 Bonita Rd., 825-3230	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•			
DEER LODGE 59722	Scully's Guide Service, David J. Scully, 700 Texas, 682-4779							•				• Big Hole, Ruby, & Jefferson rivers
DELL 59724	Easy Hunt Outfitters, William L. Knox, Box 70, 276-3306			•	•	•		•				• Free airport pickup & return
DILLON 59725	Bar Six Outfitters, Terry Throckmorton, 1975 Sullivan Lane, 683-4005 Beavertail Outfitters, Dennis & Jerry Jo Rehse, 2590 Carrigan Ln., 683-6232 Bill Johnson Outfitters, Bill Johnson, 1500 Clark Ln., 683-4975 Dave Willborn Outfitter, 775 Medicine Lodge Rd., 681-3117 Diamond Hitch Outfitters, Robert McNeil, 3405 Ten Mile Rd., 800-368-5494 Fishing Headquarters, Paul Wiederman, 426 N. Montana, 683-6660 Flyfishing Montana, Chile, 720 Kentucky, 683-2928 Frontier Anglers, Tim Tollett, Box 11, 683-5276 Garrett's, Robert S. Garrett, 803 S. Washington, 683-5544 James L. McBee, Outfitters, James L. McBee, 2600 Red Rock S., 276-3478 Last Best Place Tours, Graeme R. McDougal, 11805 Hwy 324, 681-3131			•	•			•				• Also service Russell Country • Beaverhead & Big Hole float fishing for trout • Mountain bike day trips • Lodging on river, private ponds, llama pack trips • Fly-fishing in Montana Apr.-Nov. • Llama trips, specialize in fly-fishing • Summer cabin rentals, modern facilities • Backpacking tours along Continental Divide

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Gold West Country

town	name / address / telephone	upland bird hunts	waterfowl	big game hunts	bow hunts	guest ranch	overnight packs	float trips	winter sports	trail rides	fishing	additional information
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DIVIDE 59727	Great Divide Outfitters, Al Lefor, Charcoal Gulch, 267-3346	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	• Float fish Big Hole
EAST HELENA 59635	Scofield Ranch Outfitters, P.O. Box 140, 227-8583 Simpson Outfitters, Mike Simpson, 3747 Lewis, 227-5277 Western Rivers, Fred Tedesco, Box 772, 227-5153	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	• 2-7 day camp/float trips
ENNIS 59729	Beardsley Outfitting, Tim & Kristy Beardsley, Box 360, 682-7292 Bob Cleverley, Box 455, 682-4371 Clark's Guide Service, Ed Clark, Box 572, 682-4679 Daniel E. Glines, Box 12, 682-7247 Diamond J Ranch, Tim Combs, Box 577, 682-4867 Gallentine Outfitters & Guide Service, G.L. Gallentine, Box 423, 682-4282 Gerald R. Clark, Box 582, 682-7474 Hidden Lake Outfitters, Ed & Lynne Wright, Box 817, 682-7248 Highlands to Islands Guide Service, Jim McKillip, Box 923, 682-7677 Howard Outfitters, Dale Patrick Howard, Box 247, 682-4834 Jack River Outfitters, Jim Allison, Box 88, 682-4348 Madison River Fishing Co., Michael Pollack, Box 847, 682-4293 Randy Brown Guide Service, Randy Brown, Box 444, 682-7481 Randy D. Rathie Outfitter, Box 471, 682-4162 Saunders Floating, Bill Saunders, Box 592, 682-7128 T Lazy B Ranch, Bob Walker, 532 Jack Creek Rd., 682-7288 The Tackle Shop, Ray Killian, Box 625, 682-4263 Thompson's Angling Adventures, H. A. Thompson, Box 130, 682-7509	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	• Lee Metcalf Wilderness, fishing & hunting pack trips • Also service Yellowstone Country • 32 years experience on Madison River • Power boat trips, fly-fishing specialty; beginners welcome • Day floats on Madison, Big Hole, Jefferson rivers • Fly-fishing specialist • Specialize in combination hunts • Fly-fishing specialty shop; outdoor clothing
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LIMA 59739	B Bar Two Outfitters, Lance C. Vines, Box 48, 276-3239 Centennial Outfitters, Mel W. Montgomery, Box 92, 276-3463	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	• Summer Continental Divide horse trips (1-5 days)


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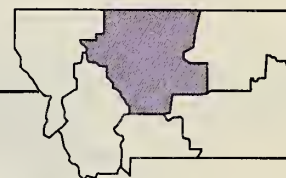
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Gold West Country

town	name / address / telephone	upland bird hunts	waterfowl	big game hunts	bow hunts	guest ranch	overnight packs	float trips	winter sports	trail rides	fishing	additional information
TOWNSEND cont.	Hidden Hollow Hideaway, Gary D. Flynn, Box 233, 266-3322 Monte's Outfitting, LaMonte J. Schnur, 16 N. Fork Rd., 266-3515 Paul Updike, Box 36, 266-3123 Ramshorn Outfitters, Audie L. Anderson, Box 622, 266-3095 William L. Davis, 8393 Hwy 287, 266-3568	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Lodge & cabin; tent camps; 25,000 acres private land Also service Russell & Yellowstone; families welcome Guided fishing-float trips on Montana rivers
TWIN BRIDGES 59754	Four Rivers Fishing Company, Scott Waldie, 205 S. Main, 684-5651 Robert Butler Outfitting Co., Robert Butler, Box 303, 684-5773 Al Wind's Trout Futures, Alan Wind, Box 485, 684-5512	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Private water on Ruby River and Leonard Spring Creek Float fishing & wade fishing for all levels
WHITEHALL 59759	Larry Geiger, Box 814, 287-3895 Cargill Outfitters, John C. Cargill, 40 Cedar Hills Rd., 494-2960 Mossy Horn Outfitters, Gordon Sampson, 375 Parrot Ditch Rd., 287-5652	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Full-day floats Madison Valley hunts
WISE RIVER 59762	Craig Fellin's Big Hole River Outfitters, Box 156, 832-3252 Pioneer Outfitter, Charles Page, Alder Creek Ranch, 832-3128 Stockton Outfitters, Billy Stockton, Box 9, 832-3138 The Complete Fly Fisher, David W. Decker, Box 127, 832-3175 The Fishhook, Dominic (Dee) Carestia, Box 104, 832-3317 Troutfitters, Frank M. Stanchfield, Hwy 43, 832-3212	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Food, lodging, fine dining, guided fly-fishing trips Spring varmint hunting Lodging, food, guiding, fly-fishing instruction Specialize in Big Hole fly-fishing float trips
WOLF CREEK 59648	Montana River Guides, Gregory G. Mentzer, Craig Rt., 235-4360 Teg Rittel, Blacktail Ranch, 235-4330	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	6-day fly-fishing trips on Missouri, Yellowstone, more
ASHTON, ID 83420	Three Rivers Ranch, Donald R. Simmons, Box 856 M, 208-652-3750	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Also service Yellowstone Country
GIBBONSVILLE, ID 83463	Keating Outfitters, Earl Keating, Box 3, 208-865-2252	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
ISLAND PARK, ID 83429	Henry's Fork Angler, Inc., M.J. Lawson, HC 66 Box 491, 208-558-7525	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Fly-fishing school, fly tackle catalogue, package trips
KOOSKIA, ID 83539	Lost Lakes Outfitters, Diana Latch, HCR 2 Box 226, 208-926-4988	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
BAY CITY, MI 48706	Trail Creek Outfitters, Ralph Mersdorf, 2638 Schwab, 517-684-0592	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Drop camps with guided hunts

Charlie Russell Country



town	name / address / telephone	upland bird hunts	waterfowl	big game hunts	bow hunts	guest ranch	overnight packs	float trips	winter sports	trail rides	fishing	additional information
AUGUSTA 59410	J-L Outfitters, Arthur J. Stevens, Box 237, 562-3663 JJJ Wilderness Ranch, Max Barker, Box 310, 562-3653 Klicks K Bar L Ranch, Dick Klick, Box 287, 467-2771, 562-3589 (winter) Sun Canyon Lodge, Lee Carlborn, Box 327, 562-3654	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Bob Marshall Wilderness trips Bob Marshall horsepack trips (summer) Also service Gold West Country Boating on Gibson Lake
BIG SANDY 59520	Chese Hill Outfitters, William L. Brown, RR 236 Box 849, 386-2447 Faber Ranch, Leo M. Faber, Box 554, 386-2266	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Varmint hunting Gopher & prairie dog hunts
BIG TIMBER 59011	Double R Outfitting, Bernard H. Rembold, Box 593, 932-4731	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
BUTTE 59701	Atcheson Outfitting, Jack Atcheson, Jr., 3210 Ottawa, 782-2382	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Bighorn sheep; mule deer; also service Yellowstone Country
CASCADE 59421	DL Elk Outfitters, Inc., Dennis A. LeVeque, 282 Ten Mile Rd., 468-2642 Fly Fisher's Inn, 2629 Old U.S. Hwy 91, 468-2529 Missouri River Angler, Peter J. Cardinal, Box 95, 468-2743 Parsons Ranch, Rupert E. Parsons, Box 85, 468-2828	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Fly-fishing on the Missouri
CHINOOK 59523	KB Outfitters, Gerald Kezar, Rt. 1 Box 56, 357-4270	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
CHOTEAU 59422	Lazy H Outfitters, Allen J. Haas, Box 729, 466-5564 M Henging Cross Outfitters, Michael "Chip" Gollehon, Box 788, 466-2523 Montana Safaris, Box 1004, 466-2004 Seven Lazy P Guest Ranch, Charles Blixrud, Box 178, 466-2044	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Mountain lion hunts in winter Meetings & workshop; seminars for groups of 20-30
CONRAD 59425	East Slope Outfitters, Tony Fowler, Box 640, 278-5814 Fallon Creek Outfitters, Monte Berzel, Box 1090, 278-3948	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Mountain lion hunts
ENNIS 59729	Headwaters Angling, Inc., Robert D'Ambruso, Box 758, 682-4328	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Also service Gold West Country; Smith R. camp/float trips
GARNELL 59445	Trail Creek Outfitters, Demorise E. Allen, Jr., Box 63, 374-2398	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Mountain camp, trophy hunt or combo
GERALDINE 59446	Bell Ranch Outfitting, Box 25, 737-4310	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
GEYSER 59447	Hill Country Expeditions, John F. Hill, Box 108, 735-4484	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	16,000-acre ranch, family style meals
GRASSRANGE 59032	Yellowwater Outfitters, Roy G. Olsen, Box 836, 428-2195	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	

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Licensed Outfitters

Charlie Russell Country

town	name / address / telephone	upland bird hunts	waterfowl	big game hunts	bow hunts	guest ranch	overnight packs	feet trips	winter sports	trail rides	fishing	additional information
GREAT FALLS 59401	Deep Creek Outfitters, Gary Anderson, 1605 14 St. SW, 452-7365 Fly Fisher's Retreat, Rick Pasquale, 825 8th Ave. S, 453-9192 Many Rivers Outfitting, Dan G. Miller, 1020 13th Ave. S, 452-9319 Miller Outfitters, Robert E. Miller, 663 Vaughn S. Frontage Rd., 761-5184 Montene River Outfitters, Craig Madsen, 1401 5th Ave. S, 761-1677 Smith River Hunting & Fishing, Dick Lyman, 20 Truly Loop, 736-5645	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	9-hole golf course Fly-fishing on Missouri, Smith & Big Spring Creek Fly-fishing instruction, Madison, Yellowstone, Missouri trips Guided backpack trips Trips on Smith & Missouri; pro's since 1977
HAVRE 59501	Bear Paw Mountain Outfitters, Eric M. Olson, Box 23, 395-4515	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Walleye fishing; excellent upland hunting
HILGER 59451	Judith River Ranches, Steve Musick, JRR, 462-5654	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Photography scenic tours in central Montana
JUDITH GAP 59453	Golden Bear Outfitters, Walt & Una Earl, HC 60 Box 348, 473-2312	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Varmint hunts for coyotes, gophers, rock chucks
LEWISTOWN 59457	DC Outfitting, Richard L. Cox, Gilt Edge Rt., 538-7821 DN & 3 Outfitters, Eldon & Barb Snyder, Gilt Edge Rt., Box 4116, 538-8591 Missouri Breaks Adventures, John Vaia, Box 556, 428-2222 Montene Snowy Mountain Outfitter, Jim Norgaard, Box 861, 538-7618	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Wagon trains, horseback rides Covered wagon & backcountry pack trips Winter predator calling "Lots of horses-lots of riding"
MARTINSDALE 59053	Solberg's Pine Valley Cabins, Gerald Solberg, HC 83 Box 634, 572-3322	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Licensed & insured outfitter, 30 yrs. experience
MISSOULA 59806	West Fork Outfitters, Ronald Corr, Box 4585, 251-5542	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
RAYNESFORD 59469	Limestone Kemp, Ray Hill, Box 33, 738-4495 Valley View Ranch, Dick Gondeiro, RR, 738-4405	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	

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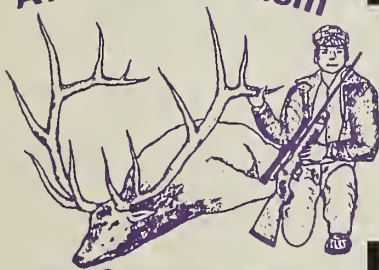
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Charlie Russell Country

town	name / address / telephone	upland bird hunts	waterfowl	big game hunts	bow hunts	guest ranch	overnight packs	float trips	winter sports	trail rides	fishing	additional information
STANFORD 59479	Judith Basin Outfitters, Clint Samson, Box 45, 566-2335 Little Belt Outfitters, Don Mikkelsen, Box 453, 566-2620	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Varmint/rattlesnake hunts
STOCKETT 59480	Ming Coulee Outfitters, Jim Gasvoda, 1411 Calvert Rd., 736-5416 Steve Fillingier Outfitters & Guide, Calvert Rt., 736-5661	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Specialize in mountain lion hunts
TURNER 59542	Borderline Outfitters, Miles Hutton, Box 144, 379-2661	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Prairie dog hunts; mule deer, whitetail, antelope hunts
TWO DOT 59065	McFarland & White Ranch, Gilbert M White, RR, 632-4868	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
UTICA 59452	Blue Nuggett Outfitters, Eugene R. Knight, Blue Nuggett, 423-5541 Circle Bar Guest Ranch, Sarah Hollatz, 423-5454 Homestead Ranch, Ed F. Arnett, Homestead Ranch, 423-5301 South Fork Lodge & Guest Ranch, Ben Steel, RR, 374-2356	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS 59645	Avalanche Basin Outfitters, Doug Caltrider, Box 17, 547-3962 Birch Creek Outfitters, Bill Galt, Box 618, 547-2107 Camp Baker Canteen, D. Johnston, 913 Smith River Rd., 547-2173 Castle Mountain Fly Fishers, Shane Dempsey, Box 370 Dupea Outfitting, Robert Dupea, Box 526, 547-3432 Howard Zehntner Hunting, Howard Zehntner, Box 534, 547-3483 Montana River Rats, Jerry West, Box 604, 547-3760 Sheep Creek Company, Doug Caltrider, Box 644, 547-2260 Think Wild Enterprises, Gene Clark, Box 446, 547-3792 Tri Mountain Outfitters, Box 229, 547-2177 Wapiti Peak Outfitters, Ron Carter, Box 423MP, 547-2115	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Elk/whitetail combination; spring-bear; winter-lion Summer canoe rentals & shuttle service available Float-fishing on Smith River & tributaries; lodging available Modern cabin w/bath; hunting on private land Float-fishing on Smith & Missouri rivers Specialize in private family summer vacations Specialize in bow hunting trophy elk, antelope, & deer Specialize in 4x4 hunts for elk, deer, antelope, bear Photography, summer pack trips, mountain lion hunts
WINIFRED 59489	M & E Outfitters, Keith Meckling, Box 84, 462-5329, 462-5421	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	All hunts include lodging, meals, transportation
WINNETT 59087	Ft. Musselshell Outfitters, Bill Harris, Box 128, 429-7601	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Spring turkey hunts, photography trips
WOLF CREEK 59648	McDonough Outfitters, Norm McDonough, Rogers Pass Rt., 235-4205	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Mountain lake pack trips; spring & fall bear hunts
FT. WORTH, TX 76103	S & W Outfitters, Sammy Smith, 4850 Marble Falls Ct., 817-451-2716	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Also service Gold West Country

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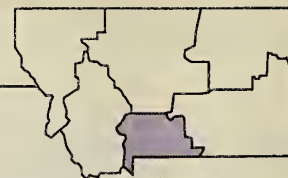
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Yellowstone Country

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town	name / address / telephone	upland bird hunts	waterfowl	big game hunts	bow hunts	guest ranch	overnight packs	float trips	winter sports	trail rides	fishing	additional information
ABSAROOKEE 59001	Bozeman Trail Wagon Train, J.R. Colburn, P.O. Box 547, 800-962-7483											Wagon train trips on historic Bozeman trail
	Paintbrush Trails, Tom Wolfe, RR1 Box 2830, 328-4158											Custom pack trips into Beartooth Mountains
	JR Outfitters, Paul E. (Corky) Hedrick, Box 37, 932-4452											
	Sugarloaf Mountain Outfitters, William Flanagan, Rt. 1 Box 2620, 328-4939											Float-fish Stillwater, Yellowstone, more
BELGRADE 59714	Bridger Outfitters, Dave Warwood, 15100 Rocky Mountain Rd., 388-4463											Fishing & working cattle ranch vacations
	Climbing Arrow Outfitters, F. & M. Anderson, 31000 Francis Rd., 388-4845											
BIG SKY 59716	Covered Wagon Outfitters, Edward L. Hake, Box 326, 995-4838											
	Diamond K Outfitters, Charles Kendall, Box 478, 995-4819											
	East Slope Anglers, Box 261, 995-4369											
	Jim Muscat Outfitting & Guide Service, Jim Muscat, Box 255, 995-4089											Specialize in trophy deer & antelope
	Lone Mountain Ranch, Bob Schaap, Box 69, 995-4644											Float fishing on Madison, Yellowstone
	Mad Wolf Ski & Sports, Brad Parsch, Box 261, 995-4369											Float-fishing in SW Montana; skiing in winter
BIG TIMBER 59011	Wild Trout Outfitters, J.D. Bingman, Box 3, 995-4895											Float fishing on Madison & Yellowstone rivers
	Anchor Outfitting, Chuck Rein, HC 87 Box 2174, 537-4485											Cabin rental
	Chan Welin's Big Timber Fly Fishing, Box 316 McLeod Rt., 932-4368											Trips for the senior class
	Dudley L. Tyler, HC 89 Box 4306, 932-4405											Float fishing trips on the Yellowstone River
	Hallstone Ranch Co., Sam Langhus, HC 87, Box 2144, 537-4471											
	I Can Do Ranch, P.L. Schuman, HC 88 Box 3727, 932-6501, 800-447-6330											Catering to physically challenged & their families
	James K. Tyler, HC 89, Box 4310, 932-4373											Fly-fishing, float trips on the Yellowstone River
	Paradise Valley Outfitters, Steve Riebert, Box 1073, 932-6535											
BOZEMAN 59715	Running M Outfitters, Monte & Martha McLane, Box 1282, 932-6121											Wilderness base camp & summer fishing drop camps
	Spring Creek Outfitters, Bob Bovee, Box 328, 932-4387											Boulder River cabins
	Sweetcast Angler, Steve & Susan Pauli, Box 582, 932-4469											Fly-fishing on Yellowstone, Stillwater, Boulder rivers
	Al Gadoury's 6X Outfitters, Allan Gadoury, Box 6045, 586-3806											
	Big Sky Outfitters, Dick Kountz, 8606 Huffine Lane, 587-2508, 586-0606											Rods reserved on Armstrong, Nelson, DePuy Spring creeks
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	Diamond R Expeditions, Peter Rothing, 3108 Linney Rd., 388-1760											
	Hawkridge Outfitters & Rod Builders, 8000 Trail Cr. Rd., 585-9608											Yellowstone trips, photography, sightseeing, backpacking
	Hubbard's Yellowstone Outfitters, Jim Hubbard, 18 Hill St., 586-7755											Yellowstone River, backpack trips
	Jennifer Smith Casting Instructor/Outfitter, Box 132, 587-5140											Fly-fishing clinics, casting instruction, guided trips
	Jerry Crabs Outfitter, Jerry Crabs, 104 W. Main, 587-5580											Specialize in instruction & consultation
	KG Guides & Outfitters, Ken Graber, Box 1623, 587-7842											Ft. Peck Lake charter boat fishing
	Magellan Guide Service, Barry Morstad, Box 3162, 388-1675											Yellowstone Park, Missouri Headwaters, spring creeks
	Medicine Lake Outfitters, Tom Heintz, P.O. Box 3663, 388-4938											Horse & mule packtrips in Yellowstone Park; 20 yrs. exp.
	Montana Flycast, Dennis Kavanagh, Box 5031, 587-5923											Complete pkg. trips for summer fishing & fall bird hunts
	Montana Outdoor Adv., Randy J. Cain, 2201 Milwaukee Rd., 586-8524											Float fishing on Bighorn, Madison, Smith
	Montana Rivers to Ridges, 3613 Bridger Station, 995-2298, 646-9671											Float fishing on Madison, Yellowstone, Missouri
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Yellowstone Country

own	name/address/telephone	upland bird hunts	waterfowl	big game hunts	bow hunts	guest ranch	overnight packs	float trips	winter sports	trail rides	fishing	additional information
BOZEMAN cont.	Sunburst Adventures, Terry Johnson, 3038 Candy Lane, 586-3212 The River's Edge, Dave Corcoran, 2012 N. 7th Ave., 586-5373 Timberline Fishing Guides, Scott Foster, 12052 Law Rd., 763-4861 Triple Tree Ranch, Ray Myers, 5520 Sourdough Rd., 587-4821 Wolverine Guide Service, Richard A. Labert, Box 6006, 586-6360 Yellowstone Llamas, Will Gavin, Box 5042, 586-6872 Yellowstone Mountain Guides, Steven R. Gamble, Box 3006, 358-0148											<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fly-fishing shop High country horseback trips & belly-boat fishing Yellowstone Park pack trips; backcountry photo & fishing Guided llama pack trips in Yellowstone Country (9th year) Backcountry fly-fishing, Yellowstone horseback trips
CLYDE PARK 59018	Crazy Mountain Outfitter & Guides, Ray Keefer, Box 54, 686-4648											
COOKE CITY 59020	Beartooth Plateau Outfitters, Box 1127, Main St., 445-2293, 800-253-8545 Big Bear Lodge, Alan Harris, Box 1052, 838-2267 Skyline Guide Service, Inc., Victor Jackson, Box 1074, 838-2380											<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Orvis endorsed outfitter & tackle shop Fly-fishing specialty lodge Horseback trips in Yellowstone Park & Beartooth Wilderness
CORWIN SPRINGS 59021	Edwin L. Johnson, Box 896, 848-7758											
EMIGRANT 59027	Castle Lodge, D. Castle Smith, Box 281, 333-4726 Horse Creek Outfitters, Robert Malcolm, Rt. 1 Box 683, 333-4977 Point of Rocks Guest Ranch, M. & C. Chase, Rt. 1 Box 680, 333-4361 Story Cattle Co. & Outfitting, Mike Story, Box 55, 333-4739											<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Private ranch
GALLATIN GATEWAY 59730	Avon Outfitters, Robin Cunningham, Box 311, 763-4761, 800-827-2087 Broken Hart Ranch, Lee Hart, 73900 Gallatin Rd., 763-4279 Buffalo Horn Outfitters, James H. Walma, Box 460, 763-4368 Flying D Ranch, Robert T. Arnaud, Box 190, 763-4419 High Country Adventures, Steve McLaren, 37130 Gallatin Rd., 995-4044 Jake's Horses & Outfitting, Kent "Jake" Grimm, 5645 Ramshorn, 995-4630 Nine Quarter Circle Ranch, Kim Kelsey, 5000 Taylor Pk. Rd., 995-4276											<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yellowstone, Madison, Gallatin guided floats/walk-wade Trophy sheep & elk; also service Gold West Country Pack trips into Yellowstone Park; comfortable hunts Trophy hunts only Open year-round, south of Big Sky Resort Cater to families
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Yellowstone Country

Yellowstone Country		upland bird hunts	waterfowl	big game hunts	bow hunts	guest ranch	overnight packs	float trips	winter sports	trail rides	fishing	additional information
town	name / address / telephone											
GARDINER cont.	Wilderness Connection, Charles G. Duffy, Box 674, 848-7287 Yellowstone Raft Co., Peter White, Box 46, 848-7777			•	•	•	•	•		•	•	Bob Marshall Wilderness hunts Guided inflatable kayak trips
HARDIN 59035	Jensen Lane Flyfishing, Mark Lane, Box 481 Y.R.S., 646-9775							•			•	
LIVINGSTON 59047	Angler Edge, Paul Rice, Rt. 85, Box 4194, 222-1522 Bear's Den Outfitters Inc., Bruce C. Delorey, Box 941, 222-0746 Bear Paw Outfitters, Tim Bowers, Rt. 38 Box 2032, 222-6642 Blue Ribbon Fishing Tours, Dale Siegle, 209 Blue Heron Dr., 222-7714 Cayuse Outfitters, Larry Lahren, Box 1218, 222-3168 Charles Loughridge, 132 S. Yellowstone, 222-3943 Chet Marion, Box 424, 222-1475, 222-2294 Crazy Mountain Raft, Robert Wilshire, 107 S. F St., 222-7185 Dan Bailey's Fly Shop, John Bailey, Box 1019, 222-1673, 800-356-4052 Flying Diamond Guide Service, Rt. 38 Box 2116, 222-1748, 222-7362 George Anderson's Yellowstone Angler, Box 660, 222-7130 Hawkrider Outfitters & Rod Builders, H. Bethel, 132 S. G. St., 222-8799 John Greene's Fly Fishing, John Greene, 307 S. 10th, 222-3562 Lazy Heart Outfit, Gene & Linda Budeski, Box 45, 222-7536 Lone Willow Creek Guide Service, Jim Schell, Box 775, 222-7584 Lone Wolf Guide Service, Mark A. Baumeister, Box 631, 222-7155 Lucky Day Outfitters, Ed Skillman, Rt. 85 Box 4252, 686-4402 Montana's Master Angler, Thomas M. Travis, Box 1320, 222-2273 Mountain Trail Outfitters, David Gamble, Rt. 38 Box 2249, 222-2534 Paradise Outfitters, Jim Cooper, Box 1305, 222-8354 Randy Petrich Big Game Hunts, Rt. 38 Box 2190, 333-4352 Rawhide Guide Services, L.A. Fatouros, Box 252, 333-4756 Roy Senter, 726 N. D St., 222-3775, 222-0904 Slough Creek Outfitters, Rt. 38, Box 2249, 222-2734 The Yellowstone Fisherman, Kent Lombard, Rt. 62 Box 3110D, 222-8400 Track Outfitter & Guide Service, Johnny McGee, Box 1132, 222-0406 Troutwest, T.J. Lavolette, Rt. 38 Box 2044, 222-8233 Wilderness Outfitters, J. Everett Stoltz, Rt. 62 Box 3110A, 222-6933 Williams Guide Service, Don A. Williams, Box 2 Billman Lane, 222-1386 63 Ranch, Sandra Cahill, Box 979 MO, 222-0570	•		•	•	•	•	•	•		•	Spring creeks, private ponds Float-fishing on Madison, Yellowstone rivers Trail rides, nature rides, gentle riding horses and mules Float fishing/wade trips on the Yellowstone & other rivers Geological, archaeological, historical interpretations Raft & kayak rentals, overnight to one week float trips Fly-fishing specialists Yellowstone trips, photography & sight seeing Fly casting instruction Trophy hunts on large private ranches Yellowstone-Madison rivers Fishing & scenic floats, Yellowstone River Specialize in fishing & photography float trips Private lodging in Paradise Valley on Yellowstone River Guided fishing shore trips Accommodate 30 guests each summer week
MANHATTAN 59741	B. W. Outfitters, Robert M. Wetzel, Box 471, 284-6562 Bighorn Outfitters, Arthur L. Yadon, Box 487, 284-3702 Brainard Ranch Hunts, Marc & Lola Broggin, Box 687, 285-6730	•		•	•	•	•					• Rustic mountain lodge Private land only; trophy elk & mule deer
McLEOD 59052	Burnt Leather Ranch, Chuck Reid, W. Boulder Rd., 222-6795 Elkhorn Outfitters, Pete, Helen, & Boland Clark, X-A Ranch, 932-6108 Hawley Mountain Guest Ranch, Bill Jarrett, Box 4, 932-5791			•	•	•	•			•	•	• Bird hunting • Bear, elk, deer, sheep, goat, moose • Hayrides
NYE 59061	Beartooth Ranch & J LX Outfitters, Rt. 2 Box 350, 328-6174, 328-6205 Donohoe Outfitting, Paul Donohoe, Box 250, 328-6291 Upper Stillwater Cavalry Outfitter, R.L. Curtin, RR 2, 328-6200			•	•	•	•			•	•	• Cabin rental; spring bear, lion hunts 1870 cavalry camp; horsemanship
PRAY 59065	Big Sky Flies & Guides, Box 142, 333-4401 Black Otter Guide Service, Duane Neal, Box 68, 333-4362	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Absaroka-Beartooth hunts, 6-10 day pack trips

<p>LIVINGSTON</p>	<div> <p>CAYUSE OUTFITTERS, INC. Larry A. Lahren</p> </div> <div> <p>P.O. Box 1218 • Livingston, MT 59047 Phone • (406) 222-3168</p> <p>COMPLETE OUTFITTING SERVICES</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td> HUNTING Bow-Rifle Fully Accommodated or Drop Camps Private Land or Wilderness </td> <td> FISHING Floats Yellowstone & Bighorn </td> <td> SUMMER PACK TRIPS With Geology-History and Archaeological Interpretations </td> </tr> </table> </div>	HUNTING Bow-Rifle Fully Accommodated or Drop Camps Private Land or Wilderness	FISHING Floats Yellowstone & Bighorn	SUMMER PACK TRIPS With Geology-History and Archaeological Interpretations
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<p>RED LODGE</p>	<div> <p>RED LODGE MONTANA BEARTOOTH WHITEWATER</p> </div> <div> <h2>Family River Rafting</h2> <p>Whitewater or Scenic 1/2 Day & Full Day Write or Call for Brochure</p> </div> <div> <p>Beartooth Whitewater Box 781 Red Lodge, MT 59068 (406) 446-3142</p> </div>			
	<div> <p>BLACK BUTTE OUTFITTERS (406) 446-3097 • Fax 446-2513</p> </div> <div> <table border="0"> <tr> <td> HUNTING • 16,000 Acres Private Land • Mule Deer & Elk • Archery & Rifle </td> <td> FISHING • Summer Camp • 6 Miles Private River • Tents & Hot Shower! </td> <td> PACK TRIPS • Horseback • Photography/Scenic • Wildlife Viewing </td> </tr> </table> <p>Trips tailored to your personal interests. Individuals, families, groups. Licensed & insured. J.O. Hash • Black Butte Outfitters • Box 171 • Red Lodge, MT 59068</p> </div>	HUNTING • 16,000 Acres Private Land • Mule Deer & Elk • Archery & Rifle	FISHING • Summer Camp • 6 Miles Private River • Tents & Hot Shower!	PACK TRIPS • Horseback • Photography/Scenic • Wildlife Viewing
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Yellowstone Country

owner	name / address / telephone	upland bird hunts	waterfowl	big game hunts	bow hunts	guest ranch	overnight packs	float trips	winter sports	trail rides	fishing	additional information
PRAY cont.	High Country Outfitters, C.B. "Chip" Rizzotto, Rt. 1 Box 515, 333-4763 Snowy Range Ranch, Patrick Landers, Box 97, 333-4437			•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Fly-fishing resort, Yellowstone Park, rivers, spring creeks High mtn. lake pack trips; day trips; housekeeping cabins
RED LODGE 59068	Beartooth Whitewater, Randow Parker, Box 781, 446-3142 Black Butte Outfitters, J.O. Hash, Jr., Box 171, 446-3097, 446-2800 Montana Expeditions, Denny Paul Salvesson, Box 182, 446-2353 Rocky Fork Guide Service, E. Strum, Rt. 1, Box 4125, 446-2514, 446-2123 Seven C Quarter Circle Outfitters, Dennis Chatlain, Box 357, 446-3961		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Summer camp, horseback riding, family trips Cattle drives Hike-in trips Absaroka-Beartooth, Bighorn floats
ROBERTS 59070	Horseshoe Guide Service, Ted E. Dinsdale, Star Rt. Box 1061, 445-2205			•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
ROSCOE 59071	Arnold H. George Outfitting, Arnold H. George, Box 11, 328-6740 Chris Branger, Outfitter, Chris W. Branger, Box 8, 328-6814			•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
SILVER GATE 59081	Castle Creek Outfitters, John D. Graham, Box 30, 838-2301	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Montana & Yellowstone Park
THREE FORKS 59752	Bitch Creek Outfitters, Bill & Linda Larson, Box 1029, 285-6955 Canoeing House/Blue Ribbon GS, Al Anderson, RR 1 Box 192, 285-3488 DeShaw Outfitters, Bill & Fayle DeShaw, Box 122, 285-3487 Rose Outfitting, John Rose, Box 508, 285-6849	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Canoe rentals, Jefferson River landing & shuttle service Float-fishing Madison, Bighorn, Gallatin rivers, more
WEST YELLOWSTONE 59758	Bear Trap Outfitters, Kenneth Whitman, Box 162, 646-7852, 646-9642 Blue Ribbon Flies, Craig Mathews, Box 1037, 646-7642, 646-9365 Blue Ribbon Outfitters, Dale Fulton, Box 791, 646-9365 Bud Lilly's Trout Shop, Jim Criner, Box 698, 646-7801 Firehole Ranch, Gary Beebe, Box 686, 646-7294 Jacklin's Outfitters, Bob Jacklin, Box 310, 646-7336 Madison River Outfitters, Dan Hull, Box 398, 646-9644 Sleepy Hollow Lodge, Larry Miller, Box 1080, 646-7707 Ron Gra's Fishing Adventures, Box H, 646-7771	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Two locations—Madison River & West Yellowstone Fly-fishing, wading or floating trips Montana & Yellowstone Park Fishing on Madison, Yellowstone rivers Full service tackle & fly-fishing shop Fly-fishing instructional trips Winter guide in Yellowstone Park, cross-country ski trips
WILLSALL 59086	Allen Schellenberger, Rt. 2 Box 354, 578-2100 Big Sky Guides & Outfitters, Inc., Rt. 2, 578-2270 Elk Creek Outfitters, Gerald Olson, Box 318, 578-2216 Elk Ridge Outfitters, Doug Landers, RR 1 Box 218, 578-2379 Flying S Outfitting, Duane Nollmeyer, 259 Horse Creek Road, 578-2269 MJ Outfitting Services, Rt. 2 Box 500, 686-4713	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Six big game species on working cattle ranch Float fishing on Madison, Missouri & Yellowstone Summer pack trips in Yellowstone Park, personalized
IDAHO FALLS, ID 83404	Roberts Flyfishing Outfitters, 1575 Richards Ave., 208-552-6390			•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Float-fishing on Madison, Yellowstone, & Big Hole
RAPID CITY, ND 57709	Gunsel Horse Adventures, Bob Lantis, Box 1575, 605-343-7608			•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Yellowstone, Ramshorn area pack trips
ELMWOOD PARK, NJ 07407	Bob Marino Outfitters, 84 Rosemont Ave., 201-797-0596			•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Rec. vehicle, fly-fishing trips on Montana rivers

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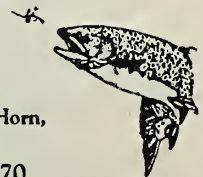
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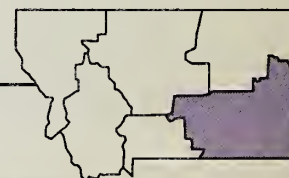
Missouri River Country

Licensed Outfitters



town	name / address / telephone	upland bird hunts	waterfowl	big game hunts	bow hunts	guest ranch	overnight packs	float trips	winter sports	trail rides	fishing	additional information
BUTTE 59701	Hunters Montane, Keith J. Atcheson, 110 Renz Dr., 782-2382	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Also service Glacier, Russell, Gold West countries
BRUSETT 59318	7-V Ranch, Ross Childers, 557-2845 Bar Y Seven Ranch, Claude Saylor, HC 60 Box 10, 557-6150	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Wagon trains, working ranch vacations
FAIRVIEW 59221	Niles Outfitters, Rocky Niles, Rt. 2, Box 2930, 747-5051	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Llama treks into Lee Metcalf Wilderness
GLASGOW 59230	Antelope Creek Outfitters, Paul Cornwell, Rt. 1-4047, 367-5582 Billingsley Ranch Outfitters, Jack Billingsley, Box 768, 367-5577 Burke Ranch, Don Burke, Box 488, 367-5247	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Photography Working ranch vacations
HINSDALE 59241	Lost Coulee Outfitters, Thomas J. Fisher, Box 278, 648-5538	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Prairie dog hunts & short tours
JORDAN 59337	Backcountry Outfitters & Chertiers, Elbert Loomis, Box 412, 557-6241 Hell Creek Guest Ranch, John E. Trumbo, Box 325, 557-2224 Twitchell Bros. Snep Creek Ranch, J. Twitchell, St. Rt. 1 Box 23, 557-2554	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Boat hunts on Ft. Peck Lake, summer day & overnight trips Bed & breakfast, guest ranch vacations Birds & prairie dogs, photography
MALTA 59538	Blue Ridge Outfitters, Earl Ray Shores, Box 1135, 658-2662 Jess Jones Outfitting Service, Jess D. Jones, Box 922, 654-1897 Montane Breaks Outfittings, Donald B. Lynn, Box 1244, 654-2249 River Breaks Outfitting, Rick R. Wood, 134 So 3 W, 654-1119 Triple Creek Outfitters, Roy G. Ereaux, Box 1173, 654-2089	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Prairie dogs, photography, specialize in bow hunting Prairie dogs
RED LODGE 59068	Fork Peck Outfitting, Inc., Box 1104, 446-1810	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Floating lodge on Ft. Peck Lake
SAND SPRINGS 59077	Kibler Outfitting and Guide Service, Myron Kibler, Box A-6, 557-2503	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Deer, elk (bow), antelope, grouse, pheasant, & partridge
ZORTMAN 59546	Little Rockies Outfitting, David L. Rummel, Box 405, 673-3559	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Hunting on CMR Refuge, fishing on Fort Peck Lake
JACKSONVILLE, OR 97530	Ambush Outfitters, Dennis R. King, Box 567, 503-899-7330	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Boat hunts on Ft. Peck Lake

Custer Country

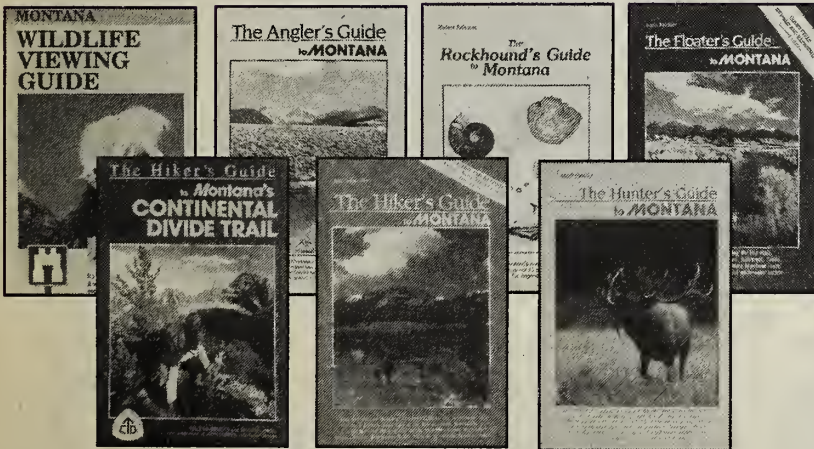


town	name / address / telephone	upland bird hunts	waterfowl	big game hunts	bow hunts	guest ranch	overnight packs	float trips	winter sports	trail rides	fishing	additional information
BIDDLE 59314	Rumph Ranch Outfitters, Richard N. Rumph, Box 343, 427-5452	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
BIG HORN 59010	Flying W Outfitters, Sherry Ward, Box 3, 342-5695	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Hunts available for the disabled
BILLINGS 59102	Bighorn River Fin & Feathers Lodge, J.L. Pickens, 1925 Central, 656-8280 Bighorn-Yellowstone Guide Service, D. Tennant, 1809 Darlene Ln., 252-5859 Cast & Blest Outfitters, Curt Collins, 910 Custer, 657-1227 Montana Adventures in Angling, J.S. McFadyen, 1845 Bannack Dr., 248-2995 Northern Plains Outfitters, Doug Dreeszen, 421 Sioux Lane, 252-4011 Pine Ridge Outfitters, Bob Lebert, Box 50531, 252-5690	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Combination bird hunting & fishing on Bighorn River Licensed outfitter with Blackfeet tribe Specialize in trophy deer & antelope hunting
BLOOMFIELD 59315	Burn Creek Outfitters, Alan Klempel, Box 25, 583-7757	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Whitetail deer & upland bird hunts on private land
BOZEMAN 59715	Guided Fly Fishing, Victor H. Colvard, Box 1269, 587-0225	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Bighorn River only
BROADUS 59317	Cedar Breaks Outfitters, John A. Stuver, Box 121, 427-5796 Cowboy Outfitters, Gib Lloyd, Box 245, 436-2216 Doonan Gulch Outfitters, R. Greenwood, S. Pumpkin Creek Rd., 427-5474 Floyd Mitchell Outfitting, F.W. Mitchell, P.O. Box 229, 436-2418, 436-2522 Golden Sedge Drifters, Greg Childress, Box 342, 554-3464 Powder River Outfitters, K. Greslin & D. Gardner, Box 678, 436-2538	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Prairie dog hunts, also service Russell Country Saddle horses & guided tours available Rock & fossil hunting, photography trips Prairie dog hunts Fly-fishing trips on Bighorn River
CLYDE PARK 59018	Montana Trails Trophy Outfitters, Michael Clark, Box 185, 686-4761	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Mule deer & antelope, service Yellowstone Country
COLSTRIP 59323	Wolf Mountain Outfitters, Loren Wahl, Box 270, 748-3300	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
COLUMBUS 59019	Sherwood Outfitting, John Sherwood, HC53, Box 31C, 322-5339	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Also service Yellowstone Country, guaranteed trophy hunts
CUSTER 59024	Montana Trout Guide Service, M. Meredith, 7385 Pineview Rd., 947-2471	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Float-fishing on Bighorn
FORSYTH 59327	Big Sky Trophy Outfitters, Sam Borla, Box 1241, 356-2469 Cat Treck Outfitters, Cal Thornberg, Box 1311, 356-2692 Montana Hunting Adventures, Box 927, 356-7930, 356-7743, 356-2401 Nile's Farming, Ranching & Outfitting, Box 3084, 356-2841	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Specialize in pronghorn antelope bow hunts Goose, duck & pheasant hunting
FORT SMITH 59035	Angler's Edge, Bred Downey, P.O. Box 551, 666-2417 Big Horn River Outfitters, Gael Thomas Larr, Box 483 YRS, 666-2351 Bighorn Angler, Mike Craig, Box 577, 666-2233 Bighorn River Sporting Services, David A. Schuller, Box 565 YRS, 666-2311 Bighorn Trout Shop, Hale Harris & Steve Hilbers, Box 477, 666-2375 B.F.D. Outfitters, Tony Cooper, Box 866, 666-2204 East Slope Outfitters, James R. Laughery, Box 855, 666-2320 Fischer's Fishers, Dennis Fischer, P.O. Box 533, 666-2337 Greet Waters Outfitting, Box 885, 666-2205	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Boat rental, motel, fly shop, shuttle service Fly-fishing float trips on Bighorn River Cast-n-blast on Bighorn, year-round services Trophy fishing on Bighorn River Complete fishing camp near Fort Smith

Custer Country

	name / address / telephone	upland bird hunts	waterfowl	big game hunts	bow hunts	guest ranch	overnight packs	float trips	winter sports	trail rides	fishing	additional information
FORT SMITH cont.	Montella From Montana, Richard J. Montella, P.O. Box 553, 666-2360 George Kelly's Bighorn Country Outfitters, Box 524, 666-2326 Quill Gordon Fly Fishers, Box 597, 666-2253	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Float-fishing & fly-fishing for trout Lodging, fly-fishing Motel accommodations, rental boats, fly shop
GLENDIVE 59330	River Road Outfitters, Herb Weiss, HC 68 Box 8022, 365-5796	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Specialize in trophy deer & antelope combination hunts
HARDIN 59034	Barnes Brothers, Inc., Jack R. Joyce, Box 1, 665-1397 Big Horn Charters & Outfitters, Mike Sanders, P.O. Box 796 YRS, 248-6651 Eagle Nest Lodge, Nick & Francine Forrester, Box 470, 665-3799 Two Leggins Outfitters, David C. Schaff, Box 2120 Star Rt., 665-2825	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Specialize in Bighorn River float trips Fishing on Bighorn Lake; also service Missouri R. Country On the banks of the Bighorn
MELSTONE 59054	Al Bassett Montene Outfitter, Box 4, 358-2360	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
MILES CITY 59301	Badlands Buck & Bull Outfitter, Le A. Zeller, Kinsey Rt., 232-0535 Blue Rock Outfitters, Kurt Hughes, Tongue River Stage, 232-5250 Ray Perkins Outfitter, Ray Perkins, 1906 Main St., 232-4283 John A. Wilkinson, Broadus Stage, 421-5494	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Coyotes & prairie dog hunting Spring turkey hunts Prairie dog shooting
MILL IRON 59324	J & J Guide Service, Jamie Byrne, HC51 Box 962, 775-8891	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Specialize in father/son or daughter & husband/wife hunts
MUSSELSHELL 59059	Bull Mountain Outfitters, Mike Murphy, Box 286, 947-3337	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
OLIVE 59343	Twin Buttes Outfitters, Paul Mobley, Box 110, 554-3456	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
OTTER 59062	Bales Hunts, Keith Bales, Rt. 1 Box 33, 784-2487 Otter Creek Outfitters, Jim Wilkins, Box 31, 784-6185	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Prairie dog shooting
SONNETTE 59348	Seven Bar Cross Ranch, D. Williams, Pumpkin Creek Rd. -10, 427-5210	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
ST. XAVIER 59075	Bighorn Troutfitters, Joe Caton, Box Bighorn River, 666-2389	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Fine dining & lodging
TERRY 59349	Robert Oolatta Outfitters, Robert Dolatta, HC 77 Box 19, 486-5736	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
ATLANTA, GA 30064	Silver Bullet Outfitters, Robert W. May, Jr., Box 725109, 404-424-6696	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Specialize in trophy whitetails
CAMP CROOK, SO 57724	Mon-Oek Outfitters, Alvin Cordell, Box 135 Mont. Rt., 605-797-4539	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Rifle & bow hunts for deer, antelope, turkey
BIG HORN, WY 82833	Treils West Outfitters, Roger St. Clair, Box 561, 307-674-6969	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Full service trophy hunts for whitetail & mule deer
BUFFALO, WY 82834	Beer Track Inc., Peter & Carey Dube, 8885 US 16 W, 307-684-2528	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
OAYTON, WY 82836	Buckhorn Outfitters, Jerry Martin, P.O. Box 9, 307-655-9448	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Trophy mule deer & antelope hunts; fly-fishing on Bighorn
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Kalispell, MT 59903-1058
752-6565

A private, nonprofit organization dedicated to making the Flathead Valley accessible for all persons and increasing recreational opportunities and promoting tourism for persons with disabilities.

Eagle Mount

6901 Goldenstein Lane
Bozeman, MT 59715
586-1781

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Montana Independent Living Project

38 S. Last Chance Gulch
Helena, MT 59601
442-5755

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Backcountry Bicycle Tours

Box 4029
Bozeman, MT 59772
586-3556

Bikecentennial

Box 8308
Missoula, MT 59807
721-1776

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Montana Department of Transportation

Public Affairs Bureau
2701 Prospect Ave.
Helena, MT 59620
444-6200
444-6339 (recording)

Montana Highway Patrol

303 N. Roberts
Helena, MT 59620
444-7000

Area Road Reports:

1-800-332-6171
Billings-252-2806
Bozeman-586-1313
Butte-494-3666
Glasgow-245-6193
Great Falls-453-1605
Helena-444-6354
Kalispell-755-4949
Missoula-728-8553

TOPOGRAPHICAL MAPS

U.S. Geological Survey
Federal Center, Box 25286
Denver, CO 80225
303-236-7477
(no phone orders)

Publications Office

MT Bureau of
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Main Hall
Montana Tech
Butte, MT 59701
494-4167

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Northwest Airlines
800-225-2525

Sky West
800-453-9417

United Airlines
800-241-6522

Rail

AMTRAK-800-872-7245

WEATHER REPORTS

National Weather Service
406-449-5204

WILDERNESS

Montana Wilderness Association

Box 635
Helena, MT 59624
443-7350

Mileage Table

	Anaconda	Billings	Bozeman	Butte	Cooke City	Cut Bank	Deer Lodge	Dillon	Glasgow	Glendive	Great Falls	Hamilton	Havre	Helena	Kalispell	Lewistown	Libby	Livingston	Miles City	Missoula	Polson	Red Lodge	Shelby	Sidney	Virginia City	West Yellowstone	Whitefish
Billings	251	0	142	224	125	330	264	253	280	223	220	371	251	224	421	129	509	116	146	340	406	60	308	273	209	217	435
Bozeman	109	142	0	82	135	284	122	111	366	365	177	229	293	95	292	163	380	26	288	201	267	149	262	415	67	90	306
Butte	27	224	82	0	217	253	40	65	427	447	153	147	269	64	226	236	309	108	370	119	185	231	231	495	71	150	240
Glasgow	446	280	366	427	405	284	420	468	0	151	274	492	158	363	419	203	507	340	197	442	458	340	260	141	433	447	413
Glendive	474	223	365	447	348	435	480	476	151	0	351	569	309	423	570	246	658	339	78	519	585	283	411	54	432	440	564
Great Falls	172	220	177	153	280	110	146	208	274	351	0	218	116	89	228	105	316	171	317	168	234	261	88	376	210	265	222
Havre	288	251	293	269	376	126	262	324	158	309	116	334	0	205	261	174	349	287	334	284	300	311	102	299	326	381	255
Helena	83	224	95	64	230	189	57	119	363	423	89	166	205	0	197	189	285	121	346	116	182	239	167	460	121	176	211
Kalispell	212	421	292	226	427	135	186	277	419	570	228	165	261	197	0	333	88	318	543	115	49	436	159	560	297	373	14
Missoula	103	340	201	119	336	240	79	170	442	519	168	50	284	116	115	273	190	227	462	0	86	350	226	544	190	269	129

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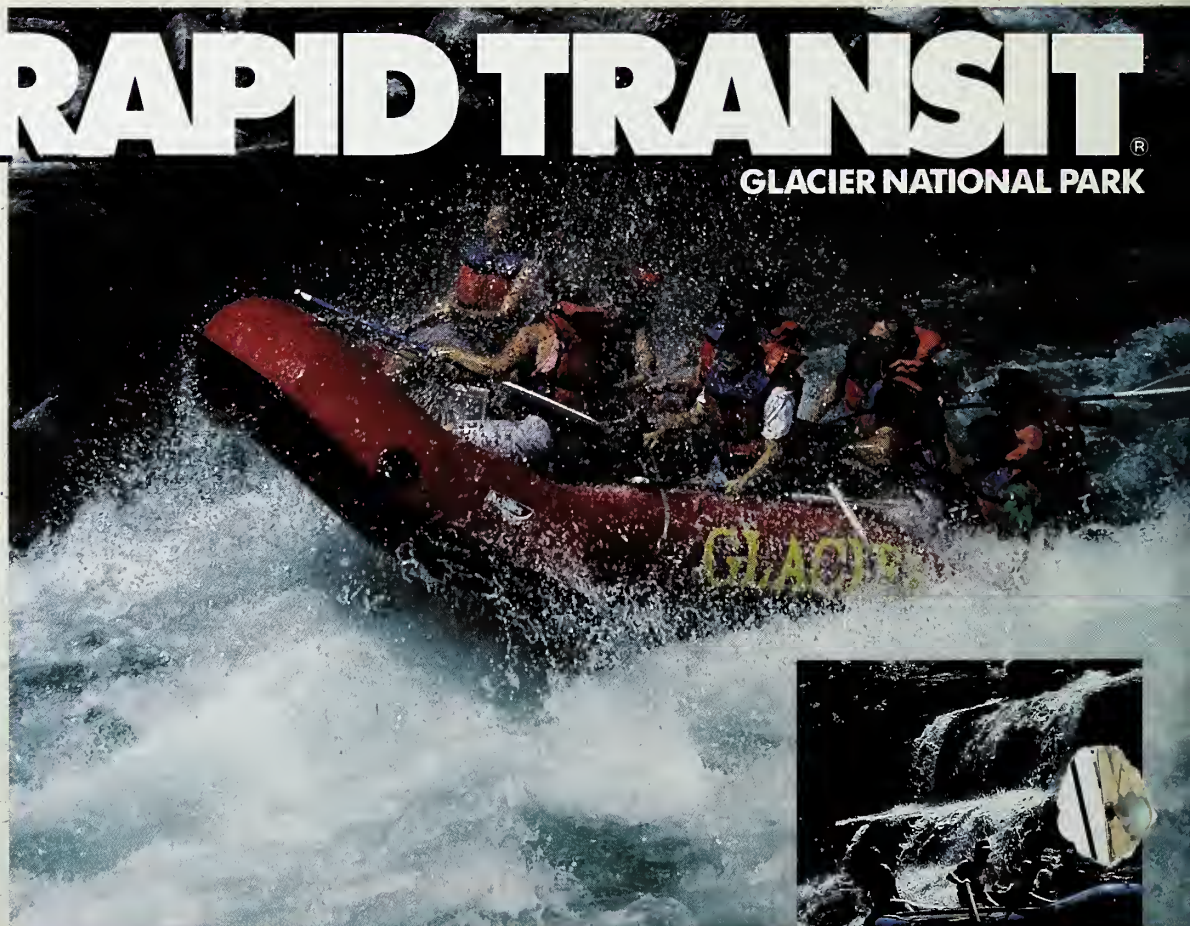
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APPENDIX D

STATE PARKS FUTURES COMMITTEE REPORT



THE STATE PARK SYSTEM Montana's Legacy - A New Growth Industry

A Report to Governor Stan Stephens
and the 52nd Legislature

Respectfully Submitted by
THE STATE PARK FUTURES COMMITTEE
November 1990

... The committee dedicates this report to the memory of member **KEITH TILKENS**. His death on January 20, 1990, was a tragic loss. We believe that the task we started together is completed by caring Montanans, the gems of the State Park System will sparkle from all their facets in fulfillment of the goal to which he was dedicated . . .

. . . The committee would like to thank Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks Director K. L. Cool and his staff for the courtesy, cooperation, assistance, and accommodation given the committee throughout the course of this study. We particularly appreciate the time he and Governor Stephens spent with the committee.

This administration has inherited a problem of long standing. It is to be commended for giving its resolution a priority among the numerous difficult challenges with which it must also deal . . .



November 1, 1990

The Honorable Stan Stephens
Governor of the State of Montana
Capitol Building
Helena, MT 59620

Dear Governor Stephens:

Now that we have completed our report, the State Parks Futures Committee is pleased to confirm that the decision to call for public evaluation of Montana's park system was wise and timely.

From public deliberations we learned that Montanans have a passionate love affair with "their" outdoor resources. But they are confused about much of the State Park System and are unhappy with its deteriorating condition. They prize state parks as an integral part of our social infrastructure—as necessary as roads and bridges. Some use the condition of our parks as an indicator or measure of the quality of Montana lifestyle.

Because of their strong concern for the future viability of their cherished parks, Montanans were eager to participate in the public forums. A great volume of excellent information was surfaced and shared. In general, Montanans are alarmed at the gradual deterioration of many of our natural and cultural treasures. Everyone openly recognized that much of the corrective action that was suggested would cost money. Our committee was encouraged to hear, at all the meetings, that the participants were "willing to pay a fair share" to upgrade Montana's state parks.

Funding, while critical, represents but one element of a bigger problem. Our committee recommendations represent a distillate of many innovative remedies for a broad range of deficiencies. Some can be implemented organizationally within state government with modest budget adjustments. Actually, during the year of our work we witnessed several excellent changes by the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks. Substantive changes will require more time and money. Our committee is alarmed at the rate of parks degradation involving a number of irreplaceable state treasures. Having reviewed other states' experiences in like circumstances, we strongly recommend that bold, decisive, and unified action be initiated as soon as possible. We respectfully suggest close study of our partnership option.

The unparalleled richness of our natural and cultural resources and their great promise for enhancing both our social and economic well-being deserves no less. Traditional methods are not working. It is important to test our citizens' resolve and enlist full participation to ensure that these public assets will not be diminished as a legacy for our heirs.

Having publicly identified this situation—on our watch—history may prove unforgiving if we fail to make a creditable effort to redress the alarming trend. The State Park Futures Committee has been honored to participate in the exercise and we hope our findings prove useful in developing Montana's State Park System up to its considerable potential.

Sincerely,

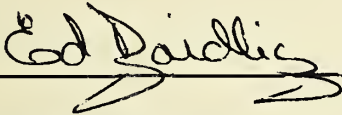
Ed Zaidlicz, Chairman
State Park Futures Committee

cc: President of the Senate
Speaker of the House of Representatives
State Legislators
Fish and Game Commissioners
K. L. Cool, Director
Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks
Montanans who participated

The State Park Futures Committee

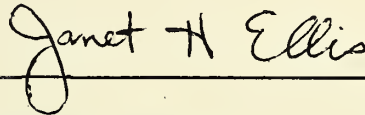
Ed Zaidlicz, Chairman

Billings
Retired BLM State Director;
Former Chairman, 1986 Governor's
Forums on Montanans Outdoors



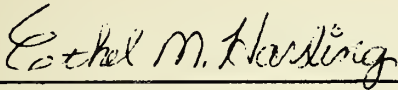
Janet H. Ellis

Helena
Program Director
Montana Audubon Council



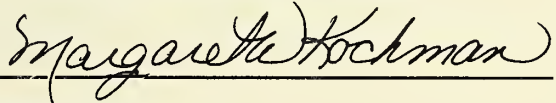
Senator Ethel M. Harding

Polson
Businesswoman



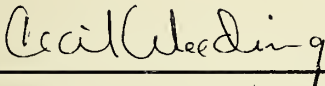
Margaret Kochman

Great Falls
Businesswoman;
Chairman, Cascade County Park Board;
Member, Giant Springs
Heritage State Park Commission



Senator Cecil F. Weeding

Jordan
Rancher



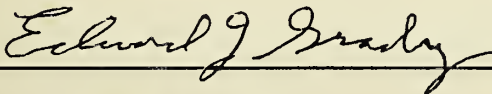
James Nave

Bozeman
Businessman;
Concessionaire, Lewis and Clark
Caverns State Park



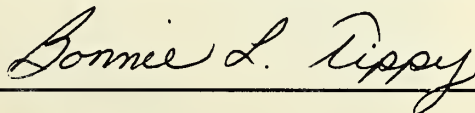
Representative Edward J. Grady

Canyon Creek
Rancher



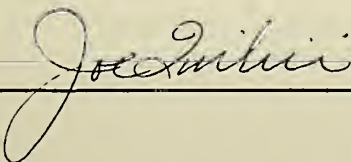
Bonnie L. Tippy

Helena
Businesswoman;
Director, Montana Innkeepers Association



Representative Joe Quilici

Butte
Businessman



Donald R. Tuttle

Victor
US Army Retired;
Montana State Director, Good Sam Club



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This executive summary represents a highlighted digest of the report to provide a general overview. It lacks vital detail and specificity found only in the full report. This report synthesizes what the State Park Futures Committee learned from professionals inside and outside the department, from the public, from a good look at the parks, from literature review of the experiences of other state park systems, and from each other. We believe our recommendations are practical, attainable, cost-effective in the long run, are in the public interest, and will earn public support.

Who is the State Park Futures Committee?

The State Park Futures Committee was appointed by The Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks in August 1989 with approval of Governor Stephens and legislative leaders. The committee's task was to make recommendations to the Governor, the 52nd Legislature, and the Fish and Game Commission about the proper role, priorities, and funding for state parks. (p. 3)

What is the Montana State Park System?

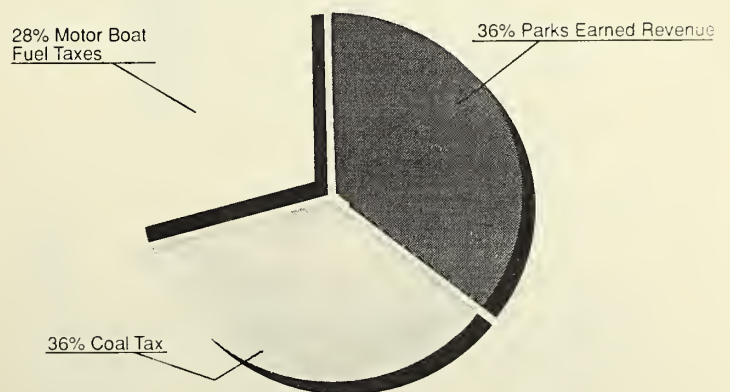
The 1939 Legislature provided the foundation upon which the State Park System has been built. It established the system "For the purpose of conserving the scenic, historic, archaeologic, scientific, and recreational resources of the state and providing for their use and enjoyment, thereby contributing to the cultural, recreational, and economic life of the people and their health" (p. 20)

Today the Montana State Park System includes 60 parks covering 30,000 acres. These natural, cultural, and recreation sites are found in every region of the state. Every year 3,000,000 people visit Montana's state parks. The current budget is \$2,300,000 for operations and \$1,300,000 for improvements. The Park Division's staff of 43 full-time and 140 seasonal people is one of the smallest in the nation. (p. 17)

Where does current funding come from?

Montana's Parks Division (and other divisions within the department which use park funds in support of parks) currently spend from three primary sources: parks earned revenue (36%), coal tax (36%), and motor boat fuel taxes (28%). (p. 17)

The State Parks Division receives no money from hunting and fishing licenses or the General Fund for day to day management. The \$1,300,000 budget for capital improvements comes from a variety of sources.



How does the Montana State Park System compare with park systems in other states?

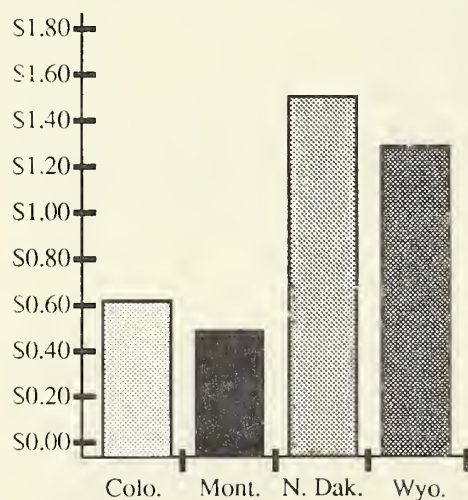
Our State Park System ranks near the bottom among the fifty states. At \$0.49 per visitor it spends only about 1/3 as much as North Dakota or the National Park Service. Put another way, Montana spends \$25,000 per park while North Dakota spends \$66,000 and Colorado spends \$145,000. At 43 full-time and 140 seasonal employees, Montana's staff is one of the smallest in the nation. (p. 17)

We are one of 5 states which offer no modern camp sites with electrical and water service. We rank 48th in the nation in spending per visitor and share with Wyoming the distinction of having no fixed outlay for capital construction of user facilities. Consequently, Montana ranks last in the nation in the amount of revenue it is able to earn per visitor. (p. 18)

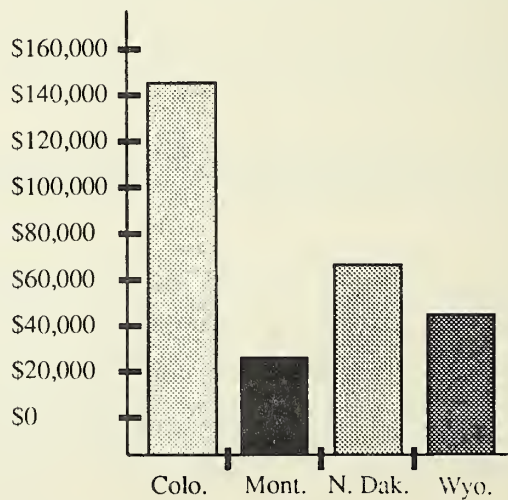
Montana, with 0.005% of its total area devoted to state parks, has proportionately less park land than any other state in the union except North Dakota (0.004%). (p. 18)

State Park System Expenditures

SPENDING PER VISITOR



SPENDING PER PARK



How do state parks benefit Montanans?

The committee found that Montanans have a love affair with their outdoor resources. They prize state parks as an integral part of our social infrastructure as necessary as roads and bridges. The committee found that state parks hold a priceless natural and cultural heritage, arguably the best in the nation. (p. 2)

Out-of-state visitors to Montana's state parks contribute almost \$45 million to Montana's economy which supports 1,500 private sector jobs. When compared to the parks' current annualized expenditure of \$2.3 million for operations and \$1.3 million for improvements, spending by out-of-state visitors to Montana's state parks represents a ten-to-one return on this investment. (p. 17)

What is the condition of the Montana State Park System?

The committee inspected more than 20 state parks and heard testimonies and read studies about all the rest. The committee found that our state parks represent the unparalleled richness of Montana's natural and cultural resources. These parks offer Montanans and our guests a sense of our own history and identity, provide places of learning and inspiration, and opportunities for "re-creation" and re-vitalization in the most beautiful surroundings available anywhere.

Our state parks provide a dramatic visual measure of the quality of life and style to which we aspire. They represent the things we treasure. In many ways the care which we give them is a reflection of the maturity of our society.

Sadly, this wealth is not being used to our advantage now, and of more concern, may be compromised or even lost if present trends are not reversed. Vandalism and other degradation of irreplaceable resources is alarmingly evident in many of the parks the committee visited. The longer we wait to address these problems, the more it will cost and the less there will be left to salvage. (pp. 19- 21)

The committee observed emergency need for stabilizing historic structures, controlling erosion and public use, correcting threats to human health and safety, and creating barrier-free access for people with handicaps. The committee also noted unrealized opportunities to inform and educate park visitors and school children.

The committee noted a lack of even the most basic inventory of park resources. Thus, parks staff cannot protect these resources, much less make them available to the public for education and enjoyment. (pp. 21-22)

What do Montanans want from their state parks?

This Report is based on more than a year of meetings by the State Park Futures Committee, community meetings attended by over 500 people in 15 Montana communities, a statewide newspaper survey, and uncounted phone calls, letters, and conversations. (p.16) This is what Montanans want:

"A State Park System which protects Montana's significant natural and cultural heritage, enhances peoples' well-being, provides high-quality and accessible recreational opportunities for Montanans and visitors, and is appropriately managed to improve the economy through tourism" (p. 20)

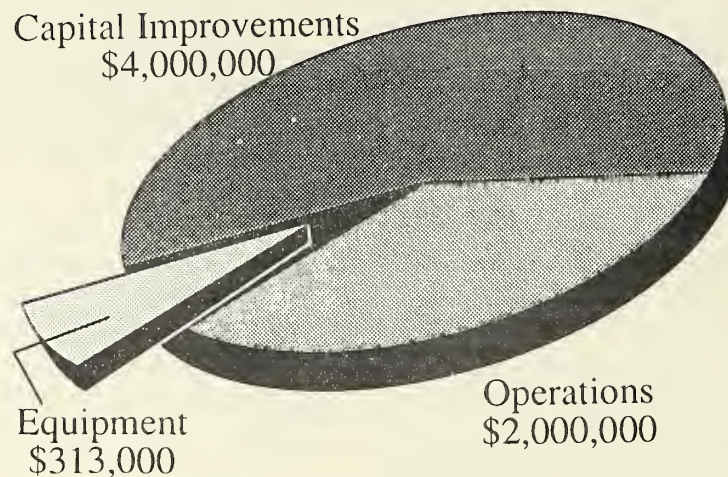
Montana has almost completely overlooked the economic value of the State Park System. Even in its present under-developed condition, the park system could be more effectively used through networking with other tourism providers and promotional activities to augment economic benefits currently identified.

What would it cost?

The State Park Futures Committee recommends a level of funding that will establish a quality, but still very basic, park system. The committee recommends an additional \$6,313,000 per year which will establish a quality park system over the next five years. The committee also recommends an additional 30 full-time equivalent employees. (pp. 29, 34)



How would the money be spent?



Where should the money come from?

The committee is aware that finding additional funding for parks will be a difficult matter for the Governor and the Legislature. The committee felt that it would be best to suggest a broad spectrum of options which it considers the most appropriate of the many it considered. The committee further suggests that a healthy park system draws upon a rational mix of appropriate funding sources rather than relying on a single source of funding.

The committee unanimously recommends the following funding sources:

**General Fund (p. 37);
Coal Tax (p. 38; and
equitable assessment of user fees (p. 40).**

A majority of the committee agreed on 13 other recommendations. Several included qualifiers that must be noted in the main report. (pp. 36-42):

Rental Car Fees
Statewide Mil Levy
New \$.01 Gas Tax
Big Sky Dividend
Sales Tax
Recreational Equipment Tax
Restaurant Tax
RV Sticker
Nonresident Boat Fees
Existing Park Roads Maintenance Law Amendment
Motor Vehicle Taxes
Small Boat Fees
Federal Matching Funds

The committee also considered and rejected 10 other funding options. (p. 36)



What else needs to be done?

In Planning (pp. 23, 30-32)

Clearly, much public misinformation exists about our State Park System. This is partly because publicly developed long-range plans have not been developed.

The department lacks comprehensive inventories of the Park System's natural and cultural resources and lacks site specific management plans for many of its parks.

1) Complete the draft State Park System Plan and develop site specific management plans where lacking. Involve the public in these efforts.

2) Develop and apply system-wide quality standards for facilities and services in all parks.

3) All of Montana's natural, cultural, and recreational resources should be comprehensively inventoried, beginning with state properties.

4) Delay disposal of any parks until sufficient planning and inventorying has been done and the public has been involved. The disposal process must follow the long-range plan to assure the public is being properly served and that parks are being used to the maximum advantage to the state.

In Management (pp. 32, 33)

1) The department should strive to make Parks an equal partner with its Fish and Wildlife elements.

2) The department should promote the highest quality professional standards and opportunity for staff.

3) The division should collaborate with other agencies, organizations, and professionals.

4) Parks staff should increase public involvement and the division's accountability to the public.

In Image and Marketing (pp. 33, 34)

1) Montana state parks should present a consistent image of the highest professional quality, both in its personnel and in park facilities.

2) The Governor should develop an aggressive marketing and promotion campaign for parks.

In Partnerships (pp. 43-47)

Partnerships not only offer the best opportunity to maximize effectiveness but also demonstrate to today's more sophisticated and knowledgeable public that their public servants are up to the challenge of working for the common good and pooling of resources. The public is most bothered by waste of resources and money and by needless duplication of effort. The public is cynical about the government's ability to make effective use of scarce taxpayers' dollars. Partnerships attack the problem on both fronts in highly visible ways.

The committee sees opportunity for expanding the use of partnerships in two broad areas:

1) Within the Governor's administration such as between tourism and parks; and

2) Outside of state government, such as with the federal and local agencies and the private sector, where the Governor and his administrative leadership is needed.

With Montana Conservation Corps (pp. 48-49)

Faced with a degeneration of a priceless legacy involving our state parks and our troubled youth, we can ameliorate both problems by early reactivation of our dormant MCC program. The magic formula the Civilian Conservation Corps devised 50 years ago is still valid and most applicable.

The committee recommends that the MCC program be funded and implemented as soon as possible.

The 1990 Montana Historic Sites Study Commission (p. 50)

The State Park Futures Committee appreciates the work of the 1990 Montana Historic Sites Study Commission and the Historical Society. Its detailed study of technical matters which are beyond the expertise of our committee gives appropriate special attention to our priceless cultural heritage. The committee will be issuing a separate report.

CONCLUSION

We believe that this report accurately reflects the current condition of our parks, their management, and their needs. Montana's parks have the potential to be the best in the nation . . . a goal within our reach and worthy of our efforts . . . for ourselves, our children, and generations to come. (p. 51)



Montana State Parks Directory

1 ACKLEY LAKE

Ackley Lake, named after an early settler and frontiersman, offers diverse water sports opportunities. Stocked with rainbow trout, the lake is often good angling for 10-to-15-inch fish. [17 miles west of Lewistown on U.S. 87 to Hobson, then 5 miles south on Secondary 400, then 2 miles southwest on county road; 160 acres, 4,400' el. (406) 454-3441]

2 ANACONDA SMELTER STACK

The old Anaconda Copper Company smelter stack, completed on May 5, 1919, is one of the tallest free-standing brick structures in the world at 585 feet, 1.5 inches. The inside diameter at the bottom is 75 feet and at the top, 60 feet. The stack can only be viewed at a distance. Listed in the National Register of Historic Places. (Undeveloped.) [In Anaconda on Montana 1; 1 acre, 5,588' el. (406) 542-5500]

3 BANNACK

The ghost town of Bannack, the site of Montana's first major gold discovery in 1862, became Montana's first territorial capital in 1864. The main street is lined with historic log and frame structures that recall Montana's formative years. Bannack Days, with historic displays, activities, and events, is held the third weekend in July each year. The visitor center and campground are open from mid-May through September. A group picnic site is available on a reservation basis. National Historic Landmark. [5 miles south of Dillon on I-15, then 21 miles west on Secondary 278, then 4 miles south on county road; 198 acres, 5,890' el. (406) 834-3413]

4 BEAVERHEAD ROCK

Sacajawea recognized this huge landmark, resembling the head of a swimming beaver, while traveling with the Lewis and Clark Expedition in 1805. Listed in the National Register of Historic Places. (Undeveloped.) [14 miles south of Twin Bridges on Montana 41; 71 acres, 5,000' el. (406) 994-4042]

5 BEAVERTAIL HILL

This area has one-half mile of Clark Fork frontage that provides fishing and floating opportunities. Twenty-five developed campsites are available under a thick canopy of river cottonwoods. [26 miles southeast of Missoula on I-90 to Beavertail Hill exit, then .25 mile south on county road; 65 acres, 3,500' el. (406) 542-5500]

6 BIG ARM

On Flathead Lake's Big Arm Bay, this park is a popular jump-off point to Wild Horse Island. Though gravelly, Big Arm's long beach is popular with sunbathers and swimmers. Camping under a stand of mature ponderosa pine and juniper is a major attraction. Others include: fishing for lake trout, boardsailing, bird watching, scuba diving, swimming, and waterskiing. [12 miles north of Polson on U.S. 93; 55 acres, 2,917' el. (406) 849-5255 or 752-5501]

7 BIG PINE

Ponderosa pine is Montana's state tree, and this park has one of the largest specimens in the state. It also has a delightful primitive camping area along the banks of Fish Creek, a clear, fast-moving mountain stream. [18 miles east of Superior, Fish Creek exit, 5 miles south on Fish Creek Rd.; 19 acres, 2,900' el. (406) 542-5500]

8 BLACKFOOT RIVER

This area starts at the Missoula-Powell county line and follows the

Blackfoot River downstream to Johnsrud Park, 25 miles north of Missoula. County roads parallel the river much of the way. River floating is most popular early in the summer when high water covers most of the rocks. However, the river can be very cold, and the current is strong. Black bear, deer, elk, and other wildlife can be seen throughout the corridor. [18 miles east of Missoula on Highway 200, then 1 mile northeast on Blackfoot River Rd.; 1,515 acres, 3,400' el. (406) 542-5500]

9 BLACK SANDY

One of the few public parks on the shores of Hauser Reservoir, Black Sandy is an extremely popular weekend boating, kokanee salmon and trout fishing, and waterskiing take-off point. Interpretive displays describe the history of Hauser Dam, a short distance north of the park. [7 miles north of Helena on I-15, then 4 miles east on Secondary 453, then 3 miles north on county road; 55 acres, 3,650' el. (406) 444-4720]

10 CANYON FERRY

Canyon Ferry Reservoir, with a shoreline of 76 miles, is bounded by rolling pine- or grass-covered hills. Numerous recreation opportunities include picnicking, camping, fishing, swimming, and boating. Three full-service marinas provide docking space for over 300 boats. The area is also rich in points of scenic, historic, and geologic interest. The visitor center at Canyon Ferry Village provides information about the dam's hydroelectric facilities and the area's recreational opportunities. [10 miles east of Helena on U.S. 12/287, then 8 miles north on Secondary 284; 3,500 acres, 3,800' el. (406) 475-3060]

11 BEARS PAW BATTLEFIELD

Site of the surrender of Chief Joseph and the Nez Perce on October 5, 1877. After a 1,700-mile retreat through some of the roughest country in the West, Chief Joseph, tired and disheartened, made his famous speech of surrender: "From where the sun now stands, I will fight no more forever." [16 miles south of Chinook on Secondary 240; 200 acres, 3,842' el. (406) 228-9347]

12 CHIEF PLenty COUPS

Situated within the Crow Reservation in south-central Montana, this park was the home of Plenty Coups, last chief of the Crow. Plenty Coups' log home and store remain as evidence of the chief's efforts to lead his people in adopting the lifestyle of the white man. [1 mile west of Pryor on county road; 195 acres, 4,100' el. (406) 252-1289]

13 CLARK'S LOOKOUT

Projecting above the dense cottonwoods and willows along the Beaverhead River, this rock outcropping provided an opportunity for members of the Lewis and Clark Expedition to view the route ahead. (Undeveloped.) [In Dillon on I-90 at Montana 41 exit, .5 mile east, then .5 mile north on county road; 7 acres, 5,406' el. (406) 834-3413]

14 COONEY

This irrigation reservoir is the most popular recreation area serving south-central Montana. Attractions include good walleye and rainbow trout fishing. Boating opportunities are abundant, and lots of camping space is available. [22 miles southwest of Laurel on U.S. 212, then 5 miles west of Boyd on county road; 304 acres, 4,600' el. (406) 252-4654]

15 COUNCIL GROVE

This park marks the site of the 1855 council between Isaac Stevens and the Flathead, Kutenai, and Pend d'Oreille Indians. Here the Indians signed the Hellgate Treaty and relinquished their ancestral hunting grounds in exchange for a reservation in the Mission Valley. The area provides good rainbow and brown trout fishing in the Clark Fork. [In Missoula on I-90 at Reserve St. Exit, 2 miles south on Reserve St., then 10 miles west on Mullan Rd.; 187 acres, 3,000' el. (406) 542-5500]

16 DEADMAN'S BASIN

This irrigation reservoir on the open prairie north of the Musselshell River provides miles of shoreline for a variety of water sports. It is also good fishing for kokanee salmon and rainbow trout. [20 miles east of Harlowton on U.S. 12, then 1 mile north on county road; 618 acres, 3,900' el. (406) 252-4654]

17 EAST GALLATIN

This area's prime attraction is a 5-acre lake that offers excellent conditions for beginning boardsailors as well as swimming, picnicking, and sunbathing. Day-use only; no overnight camping. (Under development.) [In Bozeman, North 7th Ave. to Griffin Dr., then .5 mile east; 84 acres, 4,795' el. (406) 994-4042]

18 ELKHORN

Fraternity Hall and Gillian Hall, two picturesque structures in this early-day silver-mining ghost town, have been preserved as outstanding examples of frontier architecture. Each has been recorded in the Historic American Buildings Survey. Forest Service campgrounds are nearby. (Undeveloped.) [I-15 at Boulder exit, then 7 miles south on Montana 69, then 11 miles north on county road; 1 acre, 6,400' el. (406) 994-4042]

19 ELMO

Situated on Big Arm, the largest bay of Flathead Lake, Elmo is a large, open campground partially shaded by juniper trees. Its long gravel shoreline and beach are popular with swimmers, boardsailors, and sailboaters. If you enjoy a less crowded camping experience and like the sun, then Elmo may be for you. [2 miles north of Elmo on U.S. 93, 40 acres, 2,917' el. (406) 849-5744 or 752-5501]

20 FINLEY POINT

Finley Point is located in a secluded, mature pine forest near the south end of Flathead Lake. Deer are often seen in winter but move to higher ground during the summer months. The kokanee salmon and lake trout fishing off Finley Point is often excellent. [11 miles north of Polson on Montana 35, then 4 miles west on county road; 24 acres, 2,917' el. (406) 887-2715 or 752-5501]

21 FORT OWEN

Built of adobe and logs, Fort Owen is the site of the first permanent white settlement in Montana. Father Pierre DeSmet came to the area in 1841 and established St. Mary's Mission among the Flathead Indians. In 1850, Major John Owen established the fort as a regional trade center. Period furnishings and artifacts are displayed in the restored rooms of the east barracks. Listed on the National Register of Historic Places. [25 miles south of Missoula on U.S. 93 to Stevensville Junction, then .5 mile east on Secondary 269; 1 acre, 3,300' el. (406) 542-5500]

22 FRENCHTOWN POND

This five-acre, spring-fed lake has a maximum depth of about ten feet. There is a swimming-diving platform a short swim from the north beach. A variety of fish—sunfish, bass, bullhead, brook trout, and rainbow trout—provide fair catches during the summer and through the ice in winter. Frenchtown Pond is also a favorite place to practice boardsailing, kayaking, canoeing, and snorkeling. [15 miles west of Missoula on I-90 at Frenchtown exit, then 1 mile west on Frontage Rd.; 41 acres, 3,000' el. (406) 542-5500]

23 GIANT SPRINGS

Discovered by the Lewis and Clark Expedition in 1805 and one of

the largest freshwater springs in the world, Giant Springs flows at a measured 338 million gallons of water per day. Today you can picnic by the Missouri River and visit the nearby Rainbow Falls overlook, the visitor center, and the fish hatchery. A food and beverage concession and group picnic site are also available. [3 miles east of U.S. 87 on River Drive, Great Falls; 117 acres, 3,312' el. (406) 454-3441]

24 GRANITE

The remnants of this once thriving 1890s silver boomtown bear stark witness to Montana's boom-and-bust mining history. The Superintendent's House and Miners Union Hall have been included in the Historic American Buildings Survey. (Undeveloped.) [6 miles east of Philipsburg on forest road; 1 acre, 7,050' el. (406) 542-5500]

25 GREYCLIFF PRAIRIE DOG TOWN

Sheepmen and cattlemen have often fought the prairie dog, but this town of black-tailed prairie dogs has been preserved. [9 miles east of Big Timber on I-90 at Greycliff exit, 18 acres, 4,072' el. (406) 252-4654]

26 HELL CREEK

On the Hell Creek Arm of Fort Peck Lake, this park provides facilities for most water sports as well as excellent walleye fishing. Hell Creek also serves as a launching point for boat camping in the wild and beautiful Missouri Breaks. [25 miles north of Jordan on county road; 172 acres, 2,175' el. (406) 232-4365]

27 HOLTER LAKE

This is one of the few public parks on the shores of Holter Lake. Weekend campers and picnickers can find a variety of water sports available here, as well as good fishing for rainbow trout, walleye, and yellow perch. The park also serves as a jumping off point for the Gates of the Mountains Wilderness and the Beartooth Wildlife Management Areas. [2 miles north of Wolf Creek on Missouri River Rd., then 3 miles south on county road; 40 acres, 3,600' el. (406) 454-3441]

28 LAKE ELMO

This 64-acre reservoir is a popular swimming, boardsailing, boating (nonmotorized), and fishing area. Food, beverage, and watercraft-rental concessions are available during summer months. [In Billings, U.S. 87 north to Pemberton Lane, then .5 mile west; 123 acres, 3,195' el. (406) 256-6205 or 252-4654]

29 LAMBETH

Situated on Lake Mary Ronan, Lambeth is shaded by a forest of Douglas-fir and western larch. Trails lead into the surrounding area, which abounds in wildflowers and wildlife, including deer, elk, moose, bald eagles, and several kinds of waterbirds. There are private resorts within walking distance with restaurants and lounges. Attractions include lake fishing for trout, bass, and kokanee salmon, bird watching, huckleberry picking, swimming, and mushroom hunting. [U.S. 93 at Dayton, then 7 miles northwest; 76 acres, 4,000' el. (406) 849-5082 or 752-5501]

30 LES MASON

The only public park on the east shore of Whitefish Lake, Les Mason is heavily forested with hemlock, birch, and alder and has a picturesque gravel beach. (Undeveloped.) [4 miles north of Whitefish on Secondary 487; 8 acres, 3,100' el. (406) 752-5501]

31 LEWIS AND CLARK CAVERNS

Montana's first and best-known state park features one of the largest known limestone caverns in the Northwest. Naturally air conditioned, these spectacular caves, lined with stalactites, stalagmites, columns, and helictites, are electrically lighted and safe to visit. Above ground, a self-guided nature trail provides opportunities to understand the natural surroundings. Also available are a campground, picnic sites, and a food, beverage, and gift concession. The park is open with guided tours conducted daily between May 1 and September 30. [19 miles west of Three Forks on Montana 2; 2,735 acres, 5,500' el. (406) 287-3541]

32 LOGAN

With frontage on the north shore of Middle Thompson Lake, Logan is heavily forested with western larch, Douglas-fir, and ponderosa pine. A channel connects Upper, Middle, and Lower Thompson lakes. Attractions include swimming, boating, camping, waterskiing, and fishing for rainbow trout, largemouth bass, kokanee salmon, and yellow perch. [45 miles west of Kalispell on U.S. 2; 18 acres, 3,896' el. (406) 293-7190 or 752-5501]

33 LONE PINE

The park offers a self-guided nature trail and several informal hiking trails, as well as horse trails and an archery range. There are three scenic overlooks that provide views from Flathead Lake to Big Mountain Ski Area. One of the overlook trails is designed for the mobility impaired. The visitor center has nature and interpretive programs and includes a 100-person-capacity meeting room that can be reserved. A group picnic shelter is also available on a reservation basis. [4 miles southwest of Kalispell on Foyes Lake Rd., then 1 mile north on Lone Pine Estates Rd.; 182 acres, 2,959' el. (406) 755-2706]

34 LOST CREEK

Spectacular grey limestone cliffs and pink and white granite formations rise 1,200 feet above the canyon's narrow floor. Lost Creek Falls, in the northwest corner of the park, cascades over a 50-foot drop to provide one of the most scenic and popular spots in the park. Wildlife, especially mountain goats and bighorn sheep, are frequently seen on the cliffs above. [1.5 miles east of Anaconda on Montana 1, then 2 miles north on Secondary 273, then 6 miles west; 25 acres, 6,000' el. (406) 542-5500]

35 MADISON BUFFALO JUMP

An outstanding example of a natural feature that allowed Native Americans to stampede herds of bison over a precipice in order to secure the necessities of food, clothing, shelter, and tools. Interpretive displays help visitors understand the dramatic events that took place here for nearly 2,000 years. [23 miles west of Bozeman on I-90 at Logan exit, then 7 miles south on Buffalo Jump Rd.; 618 acres, 4,400' el. (406) 994-4042]

36 MAKOSHICA

To the Sioux Indians, *Ma-ko-shi-ka* meant bad earth or bad land. Today the badlands of Makoshika are set aside for visitors to see and enjoy. In addition to the pine-and-juniper-studded badlands formations, the park also houses the fossil remains of such dinosaurs as tyrannosaurus and triceratops. Included within the park are archery and shooting ranges as well as scenic drives and nature trails, a campground, a group picnic area, and many picnic sites. [On Snyder Ave. in Glendive; 8,834 acres, 2,069' el. (406) 365-8596]

37 MEDICINE ROCKS

As its name implies, Medicine Rocks was a place of "big medicine" where Indian hunting parties conjured up magical spirits. "As fantastically beautiful a place as I have ever seen," said one of its first tourists in the late 1800s, a young rancher named Teddy Roosevelt. Weathering has given the soft sandstone rock formations a Swiss-cheese look. The park is also a haven for mule deer, antelope, and sharp-tailed grouse. [25 miles south of Baker on Montana 7; 316 acres, 3,441' el. (406) 232-4365]

38 MISSOURI HEADWATERS

Established where Lewis and Clark discovered the Jefferson, Madison, and Gallatin rivers joining to form the Missouri River, Missouri Headwaters was a geographical focal point important to early Native Americans, trappers, traders, and settlers. The park provides a campground, picnic areas, foot trails to points of interest, and interpretive displays of the area's cultural and natural history. River floating and fishing are popular activities. [3 miles east of Three Forks on I-90 at Three Forks exit, then east on Secondary 205, then 3 miles north on Secondary 286; 527 acres, 4,100' (406) 994-4042]

39 MISSOURI RIVER ROAD

The road meanders through 35 miles of the scenic Little Prickly Pear Creek and Missouri River canyons, providing travelers with the opportunity to fish, boat, picnic, camp, or just relax with photography and leisurely sight-seeing. There are 12 maintained sites along the road that provide boat ramps, picnic tables, fireplaces, and play areas. Trophy rainbow and brown trout in the 10-to-20-pound range can be caught in the Missouri here. [25 miles north of Helena on I-90 at Recreation Rd. exit; 52 acres, 3,455' el. (406) 454-3441]

40 NATURAL BRIDGE

Constrained by a deeply cut chasm during high water, the Boulder River flows over a 100-foot precipice, creating the spectacular Boulder River Falls. At low water, the river flowed under a natural rock bridge, but in July 1988, the bridge that gave the area its name collapsed. The park also serves as a wilderness trailhead and has good trout fishing. [27 miles south of Big Timber on Secondary 298; 40 acres, 5,200' el. (406) 252-4654]

41 NELSON

This reservoir, located near the Milk River, is popular for walleye and northern pike fishing as well as most water sports. The area is also noted for its abundant waterfowl. [17 miles east of Malta on U.S. 2, then 2 miles north on county road; 228 acres, 2,222' el. (406) 228-9347]

42 PAINTED ROCKS

Located in the Bitterroot Mountains, Painted Rocks Reservoir offers boating, camping, and fishing in a scenic, western pine-forest setting. [20 miles south of Hamilton on U.S. 93, then 23 miles south west on Secondary 473; 263 acres, 4,700' el. (406) 542-5500]

43 PARKER HOMESTEAD

This sod-roofed log cabin is representative of the thousands of simple frontier homes that provided shelter for hopeful pioneers who settled Montana. (Undeveloped.) [8 miles west of Three Forks on Montana 2; 2 acres, 4,050' el. (406) 994-4042]

44 PICTOGRAPH CAVE

The Pictograph, Middle, and Ghost cave complex was home to generations of prehistoric hunters. Over 30,000 artifacts have been identified from the park. A paved .25-mile trail allows you to view the rock paintings, known as pictographs, that are still visible in Pictograph Cave, the largest of the three. Picnic sites are also provided under ancient boxelder trees. National Historic Landmark. [In Billings on I-90 at Lockwood exit, then 6 miles south on county road; 22 acres, 3,600' el. (406) 252-4654]

45 PIROGUE ISLAND

This typical cottonwood-covered Yellowstone River island provides a natural haven for waterfowl, bald eagles, and white-tailed and mule deer. Wildlife viewing, fishing for sauger, river floating, and Montana moss agate hunting are popular activities. [1 mile north of Miles City on Montana 22, then 2 miles east on Kinsey Rd., then 2 miles south on county road; 269 acres, 2,371' el. (406) 232-4365]

46 PLACID LAKE

Located on a branch of the Clearwater River, Placid Lake is known for its good trout fishing and smooth water. A number of facilities are provided for camping, picnicking, boating, and swimming. Interpretive panels give an account of the early-day logging practices attested to by the massive western larch stumps in the area. [3 miles south of Seeley Lake on Montana 83, then 3 miles west on county road; 32 acres, 4,100' el. (406) 542-5500]

47 ROSEBUD BATTLEFIELD

Site of the June 17, 1876, battle between the Sioux and Cheyenne Indians and General George Crook's cavalry and infantry. One of the largest Indian battles ever waged in the United States, it set the stage for the Indian victory eight days later when Lt. Col. George A. Custer and his immediate command were wiped out on the Little Bighorn. (Undeveloped.) [25 miles east of Crow Agency on U.S. 212, then 20 miles south on Secondary 314, then 3 miles west on county road; 3,052 acres, 4,300' el. (406) 232-4365]

48 SALMON LAKE

A natural impoundment, Salmon Lake is one of the beautiful links in the chain of lakes on the Clearwater River. Fishing, boating, and a variety of water sports are popular activities in this woodland setting of western larch, ponderosa pine, and Douglas-fir. [5 miles south of Seeley Lake on Montana 83; 42 acres, 4,000' el. (406) 542-5501]

49 SLUICE BOXES

The Sluice Boxes Canyon, along a portion of Belt Creek, has a scenic hiking trail along an abandoned railroad grade and excellent trout fishing. It is day-use only, with a parking lot located at Riceville, the lower end. Nearby mines and ghost towns remind you of past mining days. [15 miles south of Belt on U.S. 89, then 2 miles west on county road; 1,403 acres, 4,100' el. (406) 454-3441]

50 SMITH RIVER

A 61-mile float trip down the remote Smith River Canyon provides incredible scenery and fantastic trout fishing. There are 23 boat camps along the river from the put-in point at Camp Baker to the take-out point at Eden Bridge. [16 miles northwest of White Sulphur Springs on Secondary 360, then 7 miles north on county road; 420 acres, 4,400' el. (406) 454-3441]

51 SPRING MEADOW LAKE

This 30-acre, spring-fed, man-made lake on the western edge of Helena is noted for its clarity and depth. Open to nonmotorized boats only, the lake is popular for swimming, sunbathing, scuba diving, and fishing for trout, bass, and sunfish. The park is accessible to the mobility impaired. There is an .8-mile, self-guided nature trail around the lake. The park is home to a surprising variety of birds and other wildlife. [In Helena, take Euclid to Joslyn to Country Club Ave.; 56 acres, 4,157' el. (406) 444-4720]

52 THOMPSON FALLS

A mature, mixed pine forest makes this a cool and private park. It is developed with drinking water, paved roads, and vault toilets. Attractions include bird watching, fishing for bass, trout, and ling, nature walks, and boating on Noxon Rapids Reservoir. A boat ramp is located nearby on Montana 200. [1 mile northwest of Thompson Falls on Montana 200, milepost 50; 36 acres, 2,473' el. (406) 827-3732 or 752-5501]

53 TONGUE RIVER RESERVOIR

The impounded Tongue River provides a 12-mile long reservoir set in the scenic red shale and juniper canyons and open prairies of south-eastern Montana. Boating and other water sports are popular here, and the park boasts excellent bass, crappie, walleye, and northern pike fishing. Four state record fish have been pulled from its waters. [6 miles north of Decker on Secondary 314, then 1 mile east on county road; 640 acres, 3,424' el. (406) 232-4365]

54 ULM PISHKUN

This prehistoric bison kill site consists of a mile-long buffalo jump, or pishkun, thought to be the largest in the United States. The park has an interpretive trail, shelters, picnic tables, fireplaces, and a protected black-tailed prairie dog town. [10 miles south of Great Falls on I-15 at Ulm Exit, then 4 miles northwest on county road; 170 acres, 3,700' el. (406) 454-3441]

55 WAYFARERS

Located on the northeast shore of Flathead Lake, a mature, mixed forest makes this site very pleasant for both camping and picnicking.

From spring to late fall the area abounds in wildflowers. Nature walks over the rocky shoreline to the cliffs are popular with photographers for the excellent view of Flathead Lake. The nearby town of Bigfork is known for its Summer Playhouse, gift shops, restaurants, and private resorts. [.5 mile south of Bigfork on Montana 35; 68 acres, 2,917' el. (406) 837-4196 or 752-5501]

56 WEST SHORE

Here glacially carved rock outcrops rise from Flathead Lake to overlooks with spectacular views of the lakeshore and the Swan and Mission mountains. The beach is rocky, but swimming and boating are popular. A mature Douglas-fir forest also makes this a cool and private park. [20 miles south of Kalispell on U.S. 93; 146 acres, 2,917' el. (406) 844-3901 or 752-5501]

57 WHITEFISH LAKE

A mature woodland contributes to this pleasant, secluded campground and beach. Boating, swimming, and fishing can be enjoyed the entire season. Whitefish Lake is rarely windy, often providing glassy conditions for waterskiing. Looking north across the lake, you can see the ski runs of Big Mountain. The nearby city of Whitefish is a year-round resort, with the Whitefish Golf Course within walking distance of the park. Good restaurants and motel accommodations are also available in the city. [.5 mile west of Whitefish on U.S. 93, then 1 mile north; 10 acres, 2,995' el. (406) 862-3991 or 752-5501]

58 WILD HORSE ISLAND

The largest island in Flathead Lake, Wild Horse Island has been a landmark since the Salish-Kutenai Indians were reported to have used it to pasture horses to keep them from being stolen by other tribes. The park is noted for its wildlife including bighorn sheep, mule deer, songbirds, waterfowl, bald eagles, and falcons, as well as three wild horses. Rare and endangered plant species have also been found on its Palouse Prairie grasslands. The island's scenic shoreline is a favorite of hikers, boaters, swimmers, and sailboat enthusiasts. Day-use only is allowed, and there are other strict rules to ensure maintenance of its natural character. (Undeveloped) [Access from Big Arm (see 6) via boat to Little Sheeko Bay on northwest side of island; 2,163 acres, 2,917' el. (406) 752-5501]

59 WILD MISSOURI RIVER SITES

This 149-mile stretch of river, under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management, was designated as a National Wild and Scenic River in 1976 because of its rich wildlife, scenic, historic, and recreation values. A priceless remnant of primitive America, the free-flowing upper Missouri remains much the same as it was when Lewis and Clark explored it in 1805. The Parks Division provides 5 boat camps under a cooperative agreement. [5 miles southwest of Big Sandy on U.S. 87, then 7 miles south on county road to Coal Banks Landing; 500 acres, 2,800' el. (406) 454-3441]

60 YELLOW BAY

Yellow Bay is in the heart of the famous Montana sweet cherry orchards. Cherry blossoms color the hillsides during spring. In the summer, cherries can be purchased at nearby roadside stands or "U-Pick" orchards. The park includes Yellow Bay Creek and a wide, gravelly beach. Among its attractions are boating, lake trout fishing, waterskiing, bird watching, swimming, camping, and scuba diving. [15 miles north of Polson on Montana 35; 10 acres, 2,917' el. (406) 982-3291 or 752-5501]

Park Facilities and Features

- * Undeveloped
- Features available
- ★ Features available and accessible to the physically disabled

N - Natural
C - Cultural
R - Recreation

			PARK MUSEUM	VISITOR CENTER	INTERPRETIVE	DRINKING WATER	REST ROOMS	WALK TOILETS	CAMPING	PICNIC SITES	TRAIL SITES	TRAIL SITES	CONCESSIONS	BOAT RAMP	TRAILS	SWIMMING	FISHING	BOATING
1	Ackley Lake	R			•		•	•	•	•			•			•	•	
2	Anaconda Smelter Stack*	C																
3	Bannack	C	•	★	•	•	•	•	•	•				•			•	
4	Bears Paw Battlefield	C	★				•	•						•				
5	Beaverhead Rock*	C																
6	Beavertail Hill	R			•	•	•	•	•							•	•	
7	Big Arm	R			•	•	•	•	•	•			•		•	•	•	•
8	Big Pine	N					•	•	•								•	
9	Blackfoot River	R			•		•	•	•	•			•			•	•	•
10	Black Sandy	R	★	•			•	•	•				•			•	•	•
11	Canyon Ferry	R		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
12	Chief Plenty Coups	C	★	•	★	★	•		•					•			•	
13	Clark's Lookout*	C																
14	Cooney	R		•	•		•	•	•				•		•	•	•	•
15	Council Grove	C	★	•		★		•									•	
16	Deadman's Basin	R					•	•	•				•		•	•	•	•
17	East Gallatin*	R																
18	Elkhorn*	C																
19	Elmo	R			•	★	•	•	•	•			•		•	•	•	•
20	Finley Point	R			•		•	•	•						•	•	•	•
21	Fort Owen	C		★			•											
22	Frenchtown Pond	R			•	•	•		•	•					•	•	•	•
23	Giant Springs	N	★	★	★	★			★	★		★		•			•	
24	Granite*	C																
25	Greycliff Prairie Dog Town	N		★														
26	Hell Creek	R			•	•	•	•	•	•			•	•	•	•	•	•
27	Holter Lake	R			•		•	•	•				•			•	•	•
28	Lake Elmo	R					•						•	•		•	•	•
29	Lambeth	R			•		•	•	•				•		•	•	•	•
30	Les Mason*	R																
31	Lewis and Clark Caverns	N	•	★	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•				
32	Logan	R			•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
33	Lone Pine	N	★	★	★	★	•		•	•				★				
34	Lost Creek	N	★	•			★	•	•					•				
35	Madison Buffalo Jump	C		•	•		•	•	•				•					
36	Makoshika	N		•	•		•	•	•	•			•					
37	Medicine Rocks	N		•	•		•	•	•									
38	Missouri Headwaters	N	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	•			★	★		★	•	•
39	Missouri River Road	R	★				•	•	•				•			•	•	•
40	Natural Bridge	N	★				•	•						•		•		
41	Nelson	R					•	•	•				•			•	•	•
42	Painted Rocks	R			•		•	•	•						•	•	•	•
43	Parker Homestead*	C																
44	Pictograph Cave	C	★	•			•	•	•									
45	Pirogue Island	N		•			•	•	•							•	•	•
46	Placid Lake	R	★	•	★		•	•	•	•			•		•	•	•	•
47	Rosebud Battlefield*	C																
48	Salmon Lake	R	★	•	★		•	•	•				•		•	•	•	•
49	Sluice Boxes	N					•							•		•		
50	Smith River	N					•	•								•	•	•
51	Spring Meadow Lake	R		★	★	★		★						★	★	★	★	★
52	Thompson Falls	R		•			•	•	•							•	•	•
53	Tongue River Reservoir	R		•			•	•	•				•	•		•	•	•
54	Ulm Pishkun	C	•				•	•					•					
55	Wayfarers	R		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•	•	•	•	•
56	West Shore	R		•			•	•	•				•	•	•	•	•	•
57	Whitefish Lake	R		•	•	•	•	•	•	•			•		•	•	•	•
58	Wild Horse Island*	N														•	•	•
59	Wild Missouri River	N	•	•			•	•	•				•			•	•	•
60	Yellow Bay	R		•	•	•	•	•	•				•	•	•	•	•	•



INTRODUCTION

The State Park Futures Committee was appointed by the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks in August 1989 with approval of Governor Stephens and legislative leaders to make recommendations to the Governor, the 52nd Legislature, and the Fish and Game Commission about the proper role, priorities, and funding for state parks.

The committee met 11 times throughout the state to consider the issues and develop its recommendations. On fact-finding trips it visited more than 20 of Montana's most significant state parks. It also held public meetings in 15 towns, meeting with over 500 people representing over 70 groups, conducted a statewide newspaper survey and received uncounted letters and phone calls.

It was apparent that there is a good deal of public interest in, concern for, and a willingness to support the State Park System.

The committee was impressed with the richness of the natural, cultural, and recreational treasures which make up the system. It was also impressed with the quality and dedication of parks employees and volunteers.

We were disturbed by the serious daily management problems facing the system as well as the all too apparent threats to the preservation of these irreplaceable properties. We felt a sense of loss over the missed opportunities to educate our youth, enrich our lives, and to capitalize on the obvious potential for parks to be a much more significant contributor to our economy.

In the end we were encouraged to find that the answers to these problems are available, the solutions are attainable, and that it is not too late to save these priceless resources. We found that the traditional methods of operation were often ineffective. Innovative and creative approaches have been developed and used on individual park areas and can be broadened to improve the entire State Park System.

What is needed most is sufficient financial support to turn the tide in what is now a losing battle and to broaden the scope, level, and priority of park management in Montana.

This report synthesizes what the committee learned from professionals inside and outside the department, from the public, from a good look at the parks, from literature review of the experiences of other state park systems, and from each other. We believe our recommendations are practical, attainable, cost-effective in the long run, are in the public interest, and will earn public support.

All committee members endorse the report and have signed it. Most of its recommendations were adopted unanimously. In the case of funding the committee agreed to suggest prioritized options which the majority approved even though one or more members did not. This was done to provide a broad spectrum of options which were believed most appropriate.

The committee acknowledges the fine work of Mr. L. E. Surles, Recreation Management Opportunities, Inc., for two studies of the financing and management of the State Park System (State Park System Financial Review, and State Park System Plan Draft) which are included in the Appendix. It has endorsed and advanced a number of Mr. Surles' concepts and recommendations. His meeting with the committee was also very enlightening and helpful.





BACKGROUND

The State Park System celebrated its Golden Anniversary in conjunction with Montana's Centennial in 1989.

Since its beginning in 1939 with the acceptance of Lewis and Clark Caverns from the federal government, the Montana State Park System has had the chronic problem of insufficient funding and management resources to properly carry out its responsibilities. Ironically, even the caverns could not begin operations without private capital to provide such basic public services as drinking water.

In the six decades since, the system has grown in response to public demands to include: 15 Natural Parks such as Lost Creek; 15 Cultural Parks like Bannack, Montana's first territorial capital; and 30 Recreational Parks, mostly located on lakes like Flathead and Canyon Ferry; a total system of over 30,000 acres.

State parks receive 3 million visits annually. That exceeds both Glacier and Yellowstone national parks which in 1989 received 1.8 million and 2.6 million visitors respectively.

Out-of-state visitors to Montana's state parks contribute almost \$45 million to Montana's economy which supports 1,500 private sector jobs. When compared to the parks' current annualized expenditure of \$2.3 million for operations and \$1.3 million for improvements, spending by out-of-state visitors to Montana's state parks represents a ten-to-one return on this investment.

The increase in number to the present 60 parks has always out-paced both development of facilities and management. The number would be larger except for department resistance to further expansion particularly since 1985.

Since the mid-1970s while the system grew by 16 parks and visitation doubled, real spending power remained flat due to inflation.

This chronic problem became acute in the mid 1980s when Montana's economic downturn, falling interest earnings, and other factors caused the state budget crisis. In subsequent legislative budget balancing efforts state parks lost over \$624,000 per year through the elimination of general fund support and saw the parks coal tax trust temporarily capped. These two acts alone reduced parks budgets almost \$1,000,000 per year. During the same period the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund was cut to 1/20 th its former amount.

The cuts, compounded by the affects of inflation, led to a cutback in operations, a moratorium on capital maintenance, and construction of replacement facilities. Plans for developing and opening several previously acquired parks were suspended and opportunities to acquire more parks were resisted despite outside pressures.

In an effort to earn more revenue the Fish and Game Commission initiated an entrance fee system in 1989. It was a catch-22 situation . . . money was needed to improve facilities and management, but without improvements support for user fees was seriously eroded. The department also lacked personnel and site control to provide complete and equitable collection. The fees added about \$300,000 per year but raised only about half of what was expected.

The 1989 legislature appropriated \$2.6 million from a variety of sources, some one-time only opportunities, to repair and add basic facilities and to help ease the transition to the newly adopted entrance fee system.

Even with the new fees the parks operating budget of \$2.3 million ranks near the bottom among the fifty states, and at \$0.49 per visitor it spends only about 1/3 as much as North Dakota or the National Park Service. Put another way, Montana spends \$25,000 per park while North Dakota spends \$66,000 and Colorado spends \$145,000.

Montana's Parks Division (and other divisions within the department which use park funds in support of parks) currently spends from three primary sources: parks earned revenue (36%), coal tax (36%), and motor boat fuel taxes (28%).

Montana's park fees support about the same percentage (36%) of the total budget as is the case in other park systems throughout the nation. Nearly every other state provides General Fund support... **Montana does not.**

The primitive condition of our parks not only deprives users of needed facilities and a quality experience. It also severely erodes revenue earning capability. Consider... we are one of 5 states which offer no modern camp sites with electrical and water service, unlike most we do not offer cabins or lodge units for rent, we rank 48th in spending per visitor and share with Wyoming the distinction of having no fixed outlay for capital construction of user facilities. Consequently, Montana ranks last in the nation in the amount of revenue it is able to earn per visitor.

Additionally, Montana has sacrificed its land acquisition program. It has given up the ability to protect existing parks from the threats of incompatible use on critical inholdings and adjoining lands. It has lost the opportunity to bring important new properties into the system. Montana, at 0.005% of its total area devoted to state parks, has less than any other state in the union except North Dakota (0.004%).

At 43 full-time and 140 seasonal employees, Montana's staff is one of the smallest in the nation.

Despite its problems, the Montana State Park System embodies a wealth of natural and cultural treasures unsurpassed in the nation.



It holds a representation virtually of every major historic theme. For example:

Prehistoric archaeological sites...

Pictograph Cave, Madison Buffalo Jump, and others;

Lewis and Clark Expedition...

Giant Springs, Great Falls of the Missouri, Missouri River Headwaters, Beaverhead Rock, and others;

First Permanent White Settlement...

Fort Owen;

Indian Wars...

Rosebud Battlefield, Chief Joseph Battleground of the Bear's Paw;

1855 Treaty site...

Council Grove;

Indian/white cooperation...

Chief Plenty Coups' homestead;

Mining, commerce, railroads...

Sluice Boxes, Elkhorn, Granite, and others;

First territorial capitol...

Bannack;

Industry...

Anaconda Stack.

Natural wonders at:

Medicine Rocks; Makoshika; Lewis and Clark Caverns; Wild Horse Island and other Flathead Lake parks; Lost Creek.

Unsurpassed recreation...

on most of the major lakes and reservoirs in the state. These are limited, highly prized, water resources to which state parks often provides the only public access.

These parks offer Montanans and our guests a sense of our own history and identity, provide places of learning and inspiration, and opportunities for "re-creation" and revitalization in the most beautiful surroundings available anywhere.

Our state parks provide a dramatic visual measure of the quality of life and style to which we aspire. They represent the things we treasure. In many ways the care which we give them is a reflection of the maturity of our society.

This wealth is not being used to our advantage now, and of more concern, may be compromised or even lost if present trends are not reversed. Vandalism and other degradation of irreplaceable resources is alarmingly evident in many of the parks the committee visited. The longer we wait to address these problems, the more it will cost and the less there will be left to salvage.

The committee found that while the department is very creative in stretching scarce resources over 60 parks, it may not always be effective in directing its resources to the highest priority needs. The present system lacks a clear sense of long-term direction and mission which the public understands and supports.

Consequently, the department has been vulnerable to outside pressures to accept areas that could be better managed by others and to adopt priorities which have popular local support but which do not necessarily address the long-term high priority needs of the park system. While this approach has resulted in many worthwhile projects, it has added to the burden, misdirected funding and effort, and added to the public's confusion about the identity and purpose of the State Park System.

These facts, together with the interest demonstrated at our public meetings, lead to the inescapable conclusion that it is time for action. These disturbing trends in the State Park System must be changed. An informed and concerned citizenry demands that the parks' legacy not be lost through abuse or neglect.

Public confidence in department management, priorities, and direction must be strengthened to maintain support for giving it additional money and personnel. These tools must be made available soon to save our park resources and to use them effectively to serve the public.





THE MISSION

The committee started its work by examining the parks' legislative mandate . . .

The Enabling Act . . .

The 1939 Legislature provided the foundation upon which the State Park System has been built. Title 23, Chapter 1, Part 1 of the Montana Code begins with a statement of its purpose . . .

"For the purpose of conserving the scenic, historic, archaeologic, scientific, and recreational resources of the state and providing for their use and enjoyment, thereby contributing to the cultural, recreational, and economic life of the people and their health . . ." (23-1-101)

THE VISION

The Enabling Act is a very broad mandate. One of the committee's first tasks was to add definition, structure, and standards around which the committee's and the public's vision of the ideal State Park System for Montana could be developed and managed.

The Vision . . .

"A State Park System which protects Montana's significant natural and cultural heritage, enhances peoples' well-being, provides high quality and accessible recreational opportunities for Montanans and visitors, and is appropriately managed to improve the economy through tourism.

Such a park system is characterized by:

1) Its legacy of natural, cultural, and recreational resources remaining undiminished and not degrading over time;

2) Its natural and cultural resources being the best representative examples of statewide significance;

3) Its recreational resources being rural in setting and at least of regional significance;

4) Management policies which are guided by professionally and publicly developed long-range park management plans to assure proper stewardship in perpetuity;

5) Park land acquisition and disposal which assure that appropriate resources are added and inappropriate ones are removed on a long-term planned basis;

6) Management which adheres to uniform identity and quality standards of resource protection, facility construction and maintenance, and public service;

7) Public use facilities which are appropriate, safe, clean, and accessible;

8) Educational, interpretive, and informational services which adhere to uniform identity and quality standards;

9) Innovative and creative management techniques which make the best uses of outside assistance such as volunteers and cooperative relationships such as federal and local governments, the private sector, and with other interests;

10) Professional staff who provide Montana's leadership in park management and who develop working collaborations and technical assistance among other park providers;

11) A strong, positive image and an organizational structure which is readily identifiable, accountable, and responsive to Montanans;

12) Being affordable to Montanans;

13) Being an essential element of the tourism industry "network."

THE REALITY

How does our present park system compare against the standard described in the Vision? . . .

The Reality . . .

In its visits to more than 20 of the most significant parks across the state, the committee observed emergency need for historic structure stabilization at Bannack and Chief Plenty Coups Memorial, found vandalism of natural and cultural features at Lewis and Clark Caverns and The Madison Buffalo Jump, and saw evidence of uncontrolled and excessive use at Canyon Ferry as well as erosion which is threatening irreplaceable resources at Yellow Bay, to cite just a few examples.

At Finley Point, Cooney, Black Sandy, and elsewhere we noted serious human health and safety problems due to lack of proper facility development and timely maintenance and management control of natural features.

The committee noted a lack of even the most basic inventory of park resources. There are no comprehensive surveys of the paleontological, archaeological, historical, geological, biological, or other values it manages. Thus, staff cannot protect, much less make them available to the public for education and enjoyment.

The department appears to be doing what it can, but it is losing the battle through lack of professional manpower, specialized expertise, and funds to deal with these problems. Since the decline of these resources is often not dramatic, it goes unnoticed by the public who pressure the department and the legislature to give priority to more visible projects offering immediate user benefits.

The system does contain some of the most important treasures of the state . . . places like Wild Horse Island, Makoshika, Missouri Headwaters, and many others. But it also is responsible for parks which are of questionable statewide significance and which would be more appropriately managed by others. They are in the system because local jurisdictions could not afford them and the state was looked upon as a deep pocket.

The department does not have a comprehensive, publicly developed, formally adopted body of management policies to provide the long-term direction or day to day

management . . . though much of what is needed is in draft form. Employees spend their energies on the demands of day to day management because of a lack of proper facilities and scheduled cyclic maintenance. It appears necessary to spend a disproportionate amount of time responding to such things as stopgap health and safety needs of users.

The system's history of growth appears to have been guided by opportunism and political pressure rather than by a systematic evaluation of the state's resources, contrary to original legislative intent. The Coal Tax Park Acquisition Program, for example, added appropriate areas like the Rosebud Battlefield, but also ones like East Gallatin at Bozeman which may not fit the state park mission.

The public is skeptical of any immediate park land disposal. It mistrusts the department in the absence of a well-defined long-range plan. It is worried about who, if not the department, has the capability to better manage parks which serve local park needs.

The Acquisition Program is now defunct because all parks coal tax trust revenue is going to management to cover the withdrawal of general fund support. This is a serious blow at a time when inholdings threaten the integrity of parks like Lewis and Clark Caverns, Bannack, and others; while important resources outside the system, like White Sandy beach on Hauser Lake, are in imminent danger of being developed by their owners and lost to the public.

The State Park System lacks clearly identifiable and consistently applied appearance and quality standards. Camping facilities, for example, vary widely, not only across the state from park to park, but also within a park where one can find several kinds of tables, stoves, space allocations, and camp pads or their absence, even though the cost to the user and his needs and expectations do not change.

Truly barrier-free access for the handicapped is almost nonexistent. The committee applauds the department's newly drafted Handicapped Access Plan which will address this problem if funding is made available.

Bank erosion, lack of trail maintenance, run-down facilities and water systems which do not meet current health standards are basic problems throughout the park system.

Educational and interpretive facilities are likewise lacking or in need of repair. Lewis and Clark Caverns, for example, which has a high-quality guided tour, has, for several years, had nonoperative audio/video equipment in both of its primary public contact points due to lack of replacement funds. We found the same problem at the Chief Plenty Coups Museum.

In many places interpretive signs, which when installed were high-quality and informative, are now gone or heavily damaged from vandalism. The site security to protect them, and the money to replace them, is not available. Many parks have developed brochures but lack effective methods of dispensing them, or the funds to print them in sufficient quantity or to update them.

The system, as a whole, is falling far short of its potential to educate, inspire, and inform park users of our heritage.

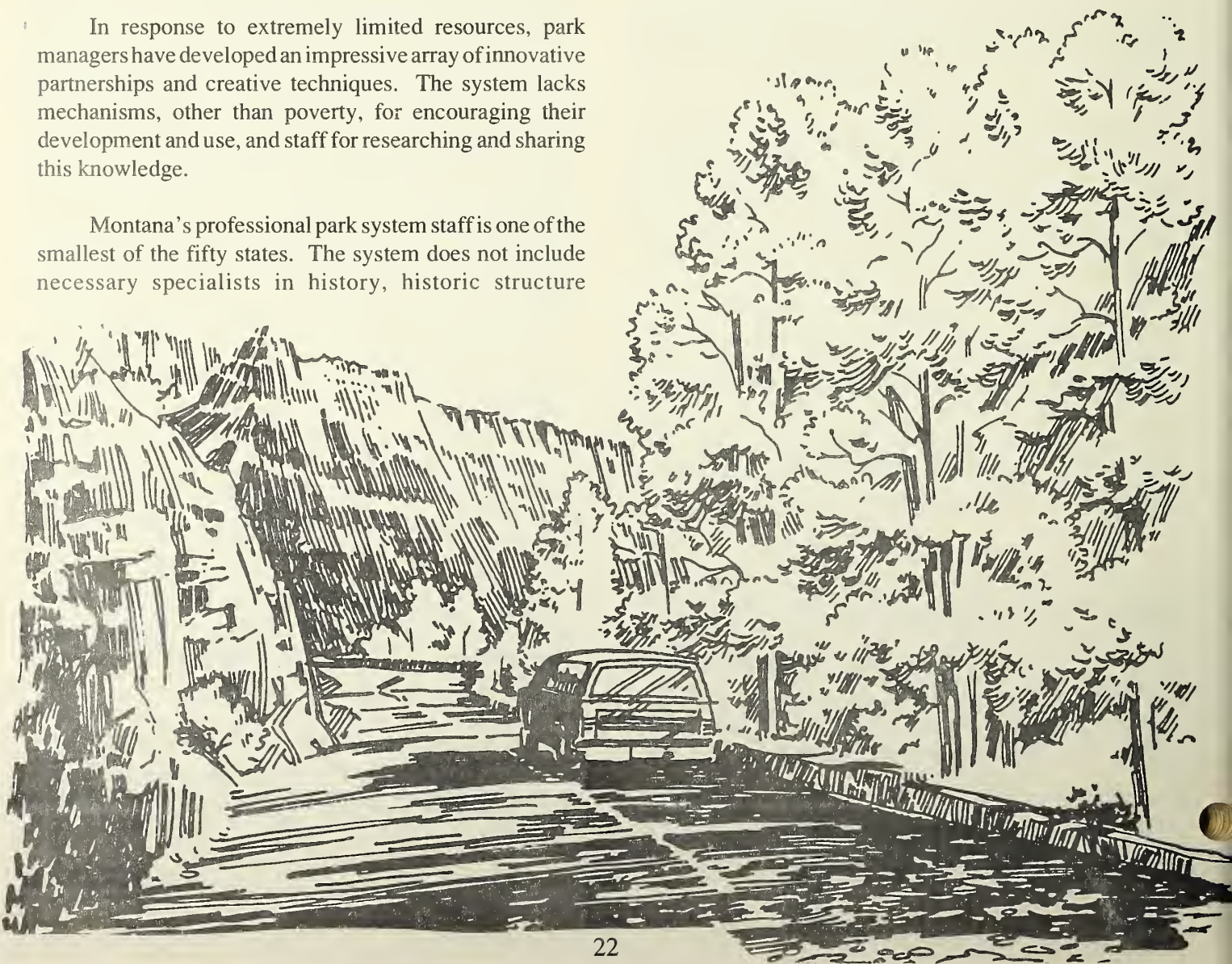
In response to extremely limited resources, park managers have developed an impressive array of innovative partnerships and creative techniques. The system lacks mechanisms, other than poverty, for encouraging their development and use, and staff for researching and sharing this knowledge.

Montana's professional park system staff is one of the smallest of the fifty states. The system does not include necessary specialists in history, historic structure

preservation, archaeology, natural sciences, media, interpretation, and many others. Its few management level employees are routinely called upon to provide all of these services in addition to providing basic management. The committee was impressed with them individually and as a group.

There is an equal amount of talent and dedication among the seasonal employees and volunteers. We met one young woman who has returned each summer for 14 years to a job that pays about \$7.60 per hour. She, alone at her park, gives guided tours, collects the fees, enforces the rules, picks up the garbage, cleans the toilets, waters and mows the grass, and controls the weeds. She and Montana's bicentennial park, The Missouri Headwaters, deserve better.

Montanans deserve better.





THE BARRIERS BETWEEN THE REALITY AND THE VISION

Clearly, the park system does not mirror the committee's vision of what it should and could be. The committee's reading of public attitude is that it should. Why doesn't it?

We found conditions which we recognized as barriers which must be overcome, or problems which need to be solved, for the park vision to be realized. The barriers fall into the general categories of:

Role

Long-Range Planning

Management

Image and Marketing

Funding

These matters were considered at considerable length and in some detail. The committee called upon outside experts—the public—and tested these observations with inspections in the parks. We spent many hours with department personnel from all levels of management and drew from a considerable body of literature and reports. The committee used an independent consultant/facilitator to assure impartial, efficient, and thorough discussion and an accurate recording of the results.

ROLE

The 1939 enabling legislation defined the broad mission for the State Park System. It is so broad, in fact, that it provides little guidance for focusing the efforts of the department. The range of scope and quality of Montana's resources make it imperative that a clearly defined selection process be used to choose the areas to be managed by the department. The options to use other public and private resource managers as partners, the pragmatic limits of budgets, manpower, and others make it imperative that Montanans define the proper niche for the State Park System.

The committee did not find that this had been done. Its Vision Statement is intended to fill that need.

It is particularly important that the State Park System's niche, or role, be accepted and understood by the public. Without public involvement at this level, support is severely diminished. The department is whipsawed into, or assumes, inappropriate responsibilities which drain its resources and further confuse the public about its purpose.

The committee saw draft documents which classify park lands and provide a prescription for their selection and management. They do not, however, provide a vision of the system as a whole, but rather prescribe the component parts. These appear to be sound, professional documents which could be made more meaningful with the inclusion of the Vision Statement. They have not been, but should be, offered for public comment and formally adopted.

LONG-RANGE PLANNING

It is clear to the committee through its public meetings that a parks legacy is important to our way of life, our well-being and to Montana's economy. The public is concerned about, and is dissatisfied with the condition and management of our state parks.

Clearly, much public misinformation exists about our State Park System. This is partly because publicly developed long-range plans have not been developed.

Work of the department on long-range planning specifically involving park classification, setting of priorities, and the State Park System plan have lain dormant, apparently due to a lack of staff and funds and perhaps to a lack of commitment to complete them.

The department lacks comprehensive inventories of the park system's natural and cultural resources and lacks site specific management plans for many of its parks.

At the same time, however, there is department-led public discussion about disposing of some parks. This is making people very nervous and we heard about their concerns in all of our public meetings.

Strong public opinion recommends against disposal of any sites pending adequate citizen review and completion of the State Park System plan. The public would accept mothballing of some sites if necessary to maintain the status quo until an adequate review is completed.

Montana's legislative mandate is not being honored and the public's needs and expectations are not being met with regard to public services currently available at our state parks. Many lack basic security, informational, interpretive, and educational services. Facilities are often inadequate, old and in need of repair, and some present risks to health and safety.

There are examples of quality facilities and service at some parks. But it appears to the committee that through a combination of a lack of long-range plans and consistent standards, and a shortage of personnel and funding these successes are more often the exception than the norm for the system. Quality standards are being developed by the department but the results are not yet evident at many parks.

The lack of the necessary plans and the identification of priorities masks the true needs, cripples efforts to mobilize public support to address these problems, and may result in misdirecting the limited management resources which are available to the department.



MANAGEMENT

During the course of its recent discussions the committee was encouraged by the strongly expressed commitment to parks by Director K. L. Cool and his deputies, and by members of the Fish and Game Commission. Long-vacant planning and administrative staff positions in the Parks Division, lost during previous budget cuts, are being filled and a new position has been created in the director's office to deal with priority recreation issues. This progress has been made without much needed budget relief.

This shifts more emphasis to leadership, policy development, and planning. The committee applauds this apparent change in management emphasis.

Public perception is a problem statewide. In almost every public meeting there was concern about the proper administrative home for parks. People frequently suggested that parks was treated as a step-child to fish and wildlife interests. It is felt that usually the marriage is encouraged and supported only when it is for the purpose of parks supporting fish and wildlife needs.

Several organizational options were suggested by the public . . . an independent parks agency, combining parks with tourism and commerce, combining parks with State Lands or returning parks to the Department of Highways, to cite common examples.

There seemed to be a lack of sufficient department interface with the public about parks matters and it was clear that the public expected more frequent opportunities to express its concerns.

There are serious and widespread misconceptions about funding. Public perception is that the department is well-off financially and all that is needed to fund the parks program is for the department to share its hunting and fishing license revenues. It would appear that parks has trouble securing its own legitimate funding because of these misconceptions.

Historically, there appears to have been a lack of appreciation or understanding internally about the difference in needs and approach to managing **nonrenewable park and cultural resources as opposed to renewable wildlife resources.**

This has been evidenced by an apparent lack of a sense of urgency to address park matters when choices were made in assigning park crews to headquarter maintenance or other tasks in support of the fish and wildlife programs instead of to park maintenance. As a result irreplaceable park resources continued to go unattended while the "more important" business of the rest of the department was addressed by park crews. The public believes that parks needs are too frequently subordinated to the needs of the rest of the department.

The perception exists that "parks" is not adequately represented at the policy level in the department. An example often cited was that there is no formal representation for parks required of Fish and Game Commission membership and indeed the very name of the commission reinforces this perception.

Parks professionals reported that they are not able to interact with other professionals outside the state or achieve the professional stature that fish and wildlife professions enjoy as a result of their out-of-state professional contacts. The department has indicated that this is largely a budget problem faced by all divisions.

The public perceives that fish and wildlife programs are promoted and supported by the department far more than are parks programs. Parks resources, particularly the historic, scientific, and cultural, are not being used to advantage by schools or by the tourism public.

The public is thoroughly confused about the jurisdiction and management responsibilities, and the purpose for various department lands such as Fishing Access Sites, Wildlife Management Areas, and Parks.

The public perceives an apparent artificial stratification of department employees. For example, a question often asked was, "Why are wardens not used more to enforce parks regulations?"

The State Park System and its employees have a muddled and confusing identity. As a group, parks employees lack stature and a positive professional image. This may be due at least in part to the fact that their jobs are viewed as largely "caretaker" positions. This perception is often reinforced by the lack of visible professional management services in parks; by employee uniforms that are nondescript, lack a professional crispness and do not look sharp; and by the lack of involvement at the professional

level with peers in other agencies, the academic world, and communities.

In contrast, as individuals, parks employees receive highly complimentary endorsement by people who know them, know their work, and their commitment to it.

The problem is compounded by the array of roles parks employees must assume. To cite one example, Fish and Game wardens are only providing a small fraction of the enforcement and public contact needs of parks. The balance of park enforcement rightly must come from park professionals who presently are too few in number, and almost totally without the training and equipment to do the job.

A second example involves the loss of Parks Division staff expertise in the field of interpretive services. This staff expertise was reassigned to the Field Services Division in the previous administration as part of reorganization and budget relief for the Parks Division. This work is too important to the mandate of the park system to subordinate it to the rest of the department.

Another example involves the almost total absence in many parks of professional interpretive and educational effort, and the near absence of outreach and interpretive programs for schools, the traveling public, and the tourism industry. These services are the mark of a truly mature and appropriate park service to the public. Without them the value of park resources to the present generation is largely being wasted, is going unappreciated and consequently may be lost through ignorance.

The department's organizational structure appears to have allowed too much individual autonomy among regional supervisors for park purposes. Historically, many were not professionally qualified or professionally motivated to assess the significance and needs of the parks component of the department. The present complement of regional supervisors appears to have much better awareness of and sensitivity to parks needs.

There is also a lack of parks program policy guidance at the Helena headquarters level to direct field effort on a statewide basis. (This has been at least in part due to previously vacant staff positions now filled.) Lack of policy has created a vacuum which is filled by supervisors who historically have not been trained in park management and have had their own priorities. These factors appear to

have affected park employee morale, caused confusion among the public about accountability, and resulted in a lack of consistent disciplined adherence to existing parks plans, policies, and priorities. Often these seem to have been subordinated to other department interests by being undeveloped, unused, or changed based upon the preferences of individuals.

The committee has been assured that these practices are changing through direction from the director, through new field staff appointments, and the filling of vacant positions which will accelerate policy development.



IMAGE AND MARKETING

Montana's state parks and its employees are generally perceived poorly by the public.

The committee found that this poor image results from problems in five general areas:

1) Appearance . . .

Employees and parks do not exhibit high and consistent standards.

2) Identity . . .

The public is confused and misinformed about the mission, sites, administration, responsibilities, and funding of state parks.

3) Promotion . . .

There are no clearly identified marketing plans, promotional materials are inadequate and poorly distributed, and the public is confused and uninformed about the parks and facilities available to them.

4) Leadership . . .

Historically, there has been a lack of sufficient attention to parks within the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks, the Governor's office, and the Legislature. This vacuum has contributed to the general decay of the Park System.

5) Funding . . .

Funding is both a root cause and a symptom of the problem. Chronic under-funding is a substantial reason for the traditional lack of attention given to state parks' image and marketing needs. This has precipitated a lack of public pride in, or even awareness of, the system's value and potential. Consequently, its legitimate funding needs are not recognized.

As a result, Montana is not capitalizing on the social and economic benefits which can flow from a strong State Park System.

Because of the questionable image and a serious lack of a marketing strategy it is very difficult to generate vital support among the general public and other cooperators in the public and private sectors.

The Park System's low profile and lack of a clear identity is also masking the severity of present degradation of significant and irreplaceable resources.

Montana has almost completely overlooked the economic value of the State Park System. Even in its present under-developed condition, the Park System could be more effectively used through networking with other tourism providers and promotional activities to augment economic benefits currently identified.

The committee was encouraged by the new partnership initiatives presently being pursued by the department and the Montana Promotions Division of the Department of Commerce. The Annual Governor's Conference on Tourism has been expanded to include Fish, Wildlife and Parks involvement, promotion of the State Park System appears to have support from the Governor's Tourism Advisory Council, and better coverage of parks in their promotional materials is being coordinated.

The State Park System contains treasures of national as well as state significance. We have an obligation to protect, interpret, and share them not only to the present generation of Americans but for America's future publics.

Failure to share this wealth of natural and cultural history with Montana's own educational community is a final indictment of our marketing efforts. That we would let go to waste these important opportunities to enlighten and inspire our youth makes society poorer by our inaction. To deprive our children of the privilege of experiencing historical, cultural, and scientific treasures that lay within our state's boundaries is unconscionable.

In most parks, employees, often the only employee on duty, must dump the garbage, clean the toilets, mow the weeds, repair the facilities, collect the fees, enforce the rules, as well as provide information and park interpretive services. Often they provide their own vehicles and temporary housing on site. While the people the committee met and interviewed were highly motivated and dedicated, we recognized that under current conditions it is impossible for them to overcome the enormous workloads, serve the user public effectively, and present a more desirable park image.

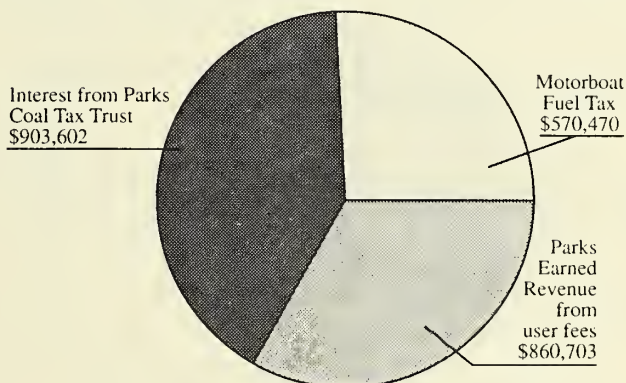
FUNDING

Current Funding

The Parks Division was appropriated \$2,896,131 for operations for July 1, 1990, through June 30, 1991. Funding came from four primary sources:

Interest from Parks Coal Tax Trust	\$903,602
(1.27% of tax builds trust corpus)	
Parks Earned Revenue from user fees	\$1,180,172
(Entrance, camping, cabin, concession, etc.)	
Motorboat Fuel Tax	\$570,470
(9/10 of one per cent of 20 cent/gallon gas tax)	
Federal Matching	\$241,887
(for the Montana Conservation Corps (MCC))	

However, the actual operations budget is only \$2,334,775.



Fee-earning shortfall caused a cut of \$319,469 in the earned revenue account. This cut made it impossible to implement the MCC for which an additional \$241,887 in matching funds was lost. The total \$561,356 cut represents a 19% reduction in an already very austere budget.

The consequences of this cut are severe:

- Montana Conservation Corps Program not implemented
- No replacement of capital equipment such as mowers, etc.
- No park major facility and utility maintenance
- No statewide signing program
- Cuts in field operations at low-earning and non-fee parks

The long-term consequences of continuing to operate at this level will be even more serious:

Implications of No New Funding

The park system continues to degrade at current funding levels.

No New Capital

1. The current deterioration of the park system would be accelerated. Roads, water and septic systems, toilets, boat ramps—all park facilities—would continue to crumble.

2. Continued resource damage such as bank erosion at Flathead Lake, Cooney; historic structure collapse, Bannack; cultural resource degradation, Rosebud Battlefield and Chief Plenty Coups would accelerate.

3. Visitor safety will decline causing closure of parts of, or entire sites due to water contamination, physical hazards such as lack of tree maintenance, road washouts, unsafe boat ramps, unusable restrooms, etc. Entrance may be restricted to walk-in only to many sites.

4. Lack of site control will result in poor visitor security resulting in thefts, assaults, and nuisance behavior.

5. Benefits to the tourism industry would be non-existent or even negative.

6. Recreational demands of the public would not be met and quality of life for Montana would decline.

7. Inholdings could destroy current park resource and recreational values through incompatible uses.

No New Equipment

1. Within four years, only 25% of all small equipment will be operable. This includes weed eaters, lawnmowers, and chainsaws. This will hinder the ability to mow lawns, cut noxious weeds, and clear brush or tree hazards around park sites.

2. Riding lawnmowers, snowplows, generators for running small hand tools, and trailers have a five-to ten-year life. With no ongoing replacement program, mowing, painting, and other basic site maintenance would virtually cease after ten years.

3. Large equipment like backhoes, dump trucks, etc. have a ten plus year life. But without the funds to keep up with repairs of even older equipment, and the problems of excessive down time, operations at remote park sites are not efficient or cost-effective. And, without the support of the smaller equipment, their usefulness would be minimal. Many parks have no heavy equipment now.

Operation and Maintenance

1. Fees could no longer be charged on some or many sites due to lack of services, inoperative facilities, and lack of collection personnel.

2. Employee layoffs would be necessary. On-site presence would be reduced or eliminated.

3. Restroom maintenance would not be continued at an approved health and safety level, therefore, toilets would be removed from many sites or closed.

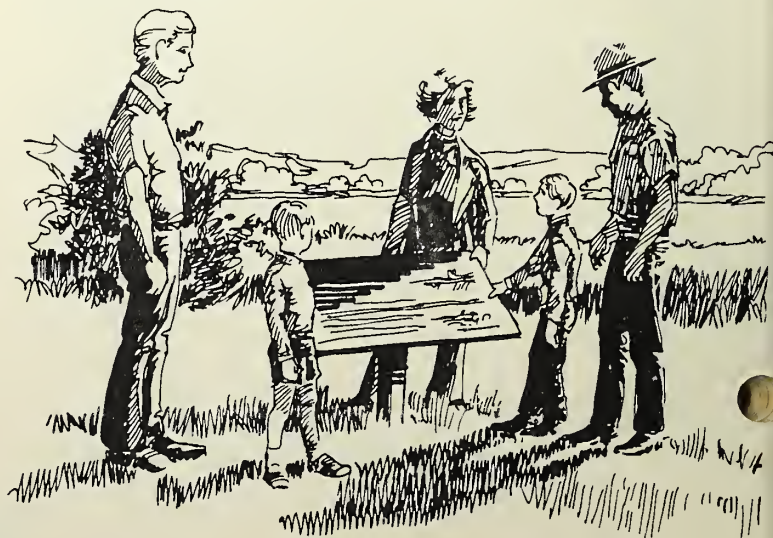
4. All sites would be considered for pack in pack out trash removal.

5. Weed control would not keep pace with infestation thus creating an infectious area impacting surrounding lands in violation of the state weed law.

6. Safety/enforcement staff would be cut, increasing visitor and department liability thus causing possible park closures.

7. Services would be virtually eliminated on many sites, especially remote sites.

8. Educational opportunities would be further diminished or lost.



New Funding Targets . . . Annual

The department presented the committee with four funding scenarios:

Funds available . . . from present ongoing and reliable sources which, if not augmented, would result in a continued degradation of the Park System as described above;

Park protection . . . the funding level which would avoid system regression. Includes resources protection, visitor safety, infrastructure, fee system enhancement, and response to increased public demand.

Park improvement . . . the funding level which would begin to restore the Park System over the next ten years;

Accelerated park improvement . . . the funding level which would establish a quality park system over the next five years. Includes a modest amount for inholding acquisitions and expansion of a few destination parks to accommodate increased tourism use.

	funds available	park protection	park improvement	accelerated park improvement
equipment	\$	\$ 168,000	\$ 240,000	\$ 313,000
capital		2,000,000	3,000,000	4,000,000
operations	2,324,775	3,050,000	3,550,000	4,300,000
TOTALS	\$2,324,775	\$ 5,218,000	\$ 6,790,000	\$ 8,613,000
NEW FUNDS NEEDED		\$ 2,918,000	\$ 4,490,000	\$ 6,313,000
FTEs	96.23	108.78	117.35	126.47
NEW FTEs NEEDED		12.55	21.12	30.24

****Note:** The present Park System budget is \$3,434,775. It includes \$2,324,775 operations; \$1,100,000 capital; and \$10,000 equipment. Funds will be available from coal tax, motor boat fuel tax, and parks earned revenue to support only current operations at \$2.3 million. Capital and equipment needs would have to come entirely from new revenue. Existing funding comes largely from one-time sources that will not be, or cannot be counted upon, to be available.



OVERCOMING THE BARRIERS ... THE COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATIONS

The present administration has inherited a serious problem of long standing.

The committee recognizes that much, but not all, of what it recommends can only be achieved with additional funding and personnel.

ROLE

The committee sees the need to bridge the gap between the broad mandate in the enabling legislation and the selection, classification, and management of specific parks.

1) The committee recommends that its "Vision" statement be adopted as a draft definition of the Role of the Montana State Park System. In its development the committee considered the department's legal mandates, the public's wishes, and drew upon examples from the nation's quality park systems.

2) It should be offered for public comment along with the department's Classification System, revised if necessary, and then formally adopted and faithfully followed.

LONG-RANGE PLANNING

The State Park Futures Committee considers the restoration of public trust and involvement of paramount and immediate concern.

The public demands concrete results and an ongoing dialogue through public meetings where people can be apprised of progress and can influence department action.

It should not take too long for the department to have already prepared draft documents ready for public review. Taking this step soon would demonstrate to the public that the department is serious about involving citizens and would keep going the momentum started by the State Park Futures Committee's public meetings.

The committee learned of a number of planning efforts started but not completed or shared with the public. It also identified other planning needs which are not being addressed. In making its recommendations it recognizes the funding and staffing limitations. It is encouraged by the department's initiatives to fill vacant planning staff positions.

1) The committee considers the completion of draft park classification documents, the State Park System Plan, and park system priorities vital to public and agency needs. It urges that this planning be given precedence, completed and shared with concerned citizens, revised if necessary, and implemented.

2) Then, site specific management plans should be developed on a priority basis after the proper mission of each park has been determined through classification and the overall State Park System Plan.

Site specific planning should be done in the context of the park system as a whole. Each park should address a specific part, or parts, of the system's mission and should complement, not duplicate without reason, other parks in the system. Each park should adopt the standards and the identity of the system. It should include a comprehensive inventory of the park's natural and cultural features so that they can be properly understood, protected, and developed for their educational value.

Management planning should include provisions for upgrading the quality of resource and visitor protection, public facilities and services, and interpretive/educational information.

Adequate access for all, including people with disabilities, should be given special attention.

3) A minimum, predetermined, system-wide quality standard must be established to encompass all state parks. The department's draft priority system must be completed to insure orderly use of this standard.

4) A healthy State Park System requires input from an informed public. Full participation of concerned citizens on a statewide basis must be encouraged at all stages of park planning, from system-wide to site specific.

5) The State Park Futures Committee strongly recommends against hasty disposal of any individual park lands before the completion of long-range planning. This includes inventory, classification, and prioritization as well as intra and interagency coordination.

Public input suggests that less viable sites may be used as trading stock to further upgrade the quality of the overall State Park System. The public would accept mothballing of some sites if necessary to maintain the status quo until an adequate review is completed.

Any trades or disposal must respect the highest and best public benefit and must be based on a comprehensive plan. Any disposal of state owned sites should be to the

maximum advantage of the state in terms of management efficiency and public benefit.

6) *All* of Montana's natural, cultural, and recreational resources should be comprehensively inventoried, beginning with, but not limited to, state owned properties but not limited to state ownership. Montana's legislative mandate suggests exactly that. The state park professionals should be vested with the leadership role in providing that inventory.

Any future cooperative sharing of resource management by city, county, federal, or private entities demands adequate statewide resource data that is developed by the Administration through the department.

The committee feels strongly about developing a broad spectrum of partnerships and has developed more specific recommendations on this subject in a later chapter bearing that title.



MANAGEMENT

Several organizational options were considered by the committee... an independent Parks Agency, combining parks with tourism/commerce and the Historical Society, combining parks with State Lands, or returning parks to the Department of Highways.

The committee feels that the State Park System belongs in the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks. The missions are compatible and complimentary. There are examples of similar organizational structures at the federal level in the Department of Interior which includes the National Park Service and the US Fish and Wildlife Service, and in other states, notably South Dakota, which has a quality State Park System under circumstances similar in many ways to ours.

We recognize that distinct and adequate sources of funding for parks which are recognized and understood as such by the public are fundamental to the healthy marriage of parks to the department.

But the committee strongly recommends that management problems which it has identified be addressed and resolved so this arrangement can more effectively serve the public and the needs of park resources.

Steps which we recommend be taken include:

1) The department should strive to make Parks an equal partner with its Fish and Wildlife elements. The director's preference is to merge Parks tightly with Fish and Wildlife so the department is perceived by the public and its employees as one cohesive unit, and that it in fact functions as such.

An alternative is to make the Parks Division a more independent, self-sufficient unit within the department as is the case in South Dakota and the National Park Service. **Given the historical problems with the present organizational structure the committee prefers this alternative.**

2) The committee applauds the initiative of the chairman of the Fish and Game Commission to change the commission's name to "Fish, Wildlife and Parks Commission." The committee also urges that when members are appointed by the governor there be commensurate representation on the commission of persons whose qualifications and interests are in the field of parks.

3) The department should be sensitive to the fundamental differences between the management of renewable fish and wildlife and nonrenewable parks resources. Parks, unlike wildlife, cannot be effectively managed remotely. On-site presence is needed. Addressing threatened parks resources should not be subordinated to other department needs by diverting parks crews.

4) Parks program policy development should be given a high priority now that planning staff positions have been filled.

5) There should be more clearly defined accountability in the chain of command and more formal follow-up to insure the accomplishment of assigned priorities.

6) The legitimate and unique needs of professional parks stewardship, such as enforcement and interpretive services, must be recognized and addressed.

7) Parks professionals should be afforded the cross-training and professional development opportunities to qualify them for professional advancement throughout the department.



8) Because of parks' broad mandate to manage Montana's outdoor recreation, natural, historical, and cultural resources, the Parks Division should spearhead interpretive programs for the state and have the visible endorsement of the Governor's Administration and the educational community.

9) The committee feels strongly that parks should be used to capitalize on the educational aspects of Montana's rich heritage, especially for our elementary and secondary school students. This will require new partnerships but also adequate and professionally qualified staff in the Parks Division to do this important, but now neglected, work.

10) The department should increase and expand the interaction between parks and other entities, such as the tourism industry, the educational, and social services communities. This would broaden the expertise to include specialists in the fields of travel promotion, interpretation, and human services, for example, and bring the Park System into contact with additional users who could benefit from parks resources and services.

11) In recognition of public demand, the department should have more routine and frequent public contact about parks matters. People need frequent progress reports about program implementation and face to face opportunities to express their views to the department about broad policy issues, priorities and department initiatives.

12) It is particularly important that the Montana users and taxpayers be kept informed about the budgetary status of parks . . . its revenue sources and amounts, how they are used and the restrictions that apply, as well as budgetary needs. Montanans must also be kept informed about what their money is buying in resource protection, facilities, and services.



IMAGE AND MARKETING

A number of the system's problems can be solved with appropriate and early attention to its image and marketing. The committee recommends the following actions:

Appearance

1) The department should recognize the importance of portraying a professional staff image to the public. The uniform of park employees should be upgraded to a standard comparable to other professionally managed state and national parks.

It is not necessary for parks employees have a uniform that is totally unique. It is important that the public be able to distinguish park employees from biologists or game wardens through an identifying patch. It is also vital that the uniform present a professional image of which both the employees and the public which they serve can be proud.

2) Park employees, who are quality and dedicated people, should be properly trained and well-equipped to meet and serve the public.

3) At larger parks, additional specialized personnel are needed. Interpretive, resource, enforcement, and supervisory responsibilities cannot effectively be handled by one or two people. The professional managers should be free to oversee the stewardship of these parks and provide a liaison with partners, their communities, and other professionals.

4) Park construction and maintenance standards should be developed and implemented uniformly statewide. The committee is aware that such standards are being developed for major facilities and urges that the completion and adoption of those standards be expedited.

Promotion

1) The department should give priority consideration to providing at least one interpretive information specialist at the Helena headquarters office when staffing is increased.

2) Priority should be given to developing and implementing a Governor's administration-wide park marketing campaign involving all pertinent groups and constituencies.

3) The Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks should develop a strategic plan for the creation of a philanthropic foundation for state parks whose mission would be to support, promote, and raise private money.

Identity

1) The Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks should establish a clear identity for the parks logo on all signs, publications, and uniforms. This can be done as a supplement to the department's logo where appropriate and not as a replacement for it.

2) Signage should be uniform and identifiable statewide.

3) Promotional campaigns should focus on the system as well as individual parks to reinforce the system's identity.

4) Interaction among Montana state park professionals with peers and other disciplines both within and outside of Montana should be encouraged.



FUNDING

The committee recommends funding at the **ACCELERATED PARK IMPROVEMENT** level of funding on a **FIVE** year schedule, \$6,313,000 new funds per year, and 30.24 new FTEs (full-time equivalent employees which would consist of both year around and seasonal employees).

At the request of the committee the department developed various funding scenarios and schedules for committee consideration. After the committee selected its preferred option, the department developed very detailed documentation for the actual projects and activities which our recommendation covers. This information is contained in the Appendix. It is summarized below.

It should be noted that "ACCELERATED PARK IMPROVEMENT" does not include everything that could be done, but is reflective of a quality, but reasonable, budget in view of Montana's overall fiscal realities.

Funding priorities

This level of funding and manpower will establish a quality, but still very basic, park system over the next five years addressing the following priority needs:

1) resource protection and human safety . . .

save irreplaceable natural and cultural features such as Medicine Rocks sandstone formations and Ulm Pishkun artifacts, and provide safer roads and water systems, etc.;

2) infrastructure integrity . . .

do preventative maintenance on many buildings and utilities and fund life cycle replacement;

3) public demand, use, and preference . . .

add facilities and services to improve customer satisfaction, such as security, information and interpretive services;

4) revenue enhancement . . .

provide quality campgrounds and other things people will pay to use and enjoy;

5) inholdings . . .

secure properties which if inappropriately used by others could compromise or even destroy existing park values;

6) meeting long-term future needs . . .

provide for orderly development of existing undeveloped parks and to acquire through exchange, lease, donation, easement, or fee other park lands worthy of being in the State Park System with an emphasis on expanding existing sites.

Funding needs (itemized list in Appendix)

operations . . . \$2,000,000 new funds

Includes personnel, supplies, travel, communications, day to day management, routine upkeep, and repairs.

Additional funds would: upgrade professional park management and maintenance capabilities; provide scheduled maintenance and replacement of facilities; increase fee collections, security, public contact, informational/interpretive services; provide long-range management plans; pursue partnerships and adopt a park strategies; liaison with tourism industry; engineering support for capital program and facility maintenance; support for the Montana Conservation Corps; and other operational and maintenance needs;

equipment . . . \$313,000 new funds

Includes all office, shop, and field equipment costing over \$200 and which has a useable life of more than one year.

Additional funds would provide: scheduled replacement of mowers, tractors, trucks, shop equipment, etc; upgrade field safety communications equipment; add new maintenance and service equipment for work crews, fee collectors, and office support;

capital . . . \$4,000,000 new funds

Includes buildings and other facilities such as utilities and roads which are real property improvements and include land acquisitions.

Additional funds would provide: life cycle and preventative maintenance for roads and public facilities; upgrade facilities for handicapped accessibility; add campground services such as dump stations, toilets, shelters, water systems, boat facilities, shade tree irrigation, site control and identification, and facilities for volunteer hosts; provide structure stabilization of historic buildings, erosion control; expand signing and interpretive and public contact facilities; acquisition or easement of critical inholdings and adjoining properties which threaten parks; and expansion for increased public demands for campgrounds, etc.

The committee's reasons for its recommendation

It is vital to not only stop the degradation of our parks but to do it as quickly as possible. This will rescue priceless

resources from certain obliteration and will do it at less cost today than later. Further degradation and inflation only add to the price. The price will be higher and there will be less to save.

Funding at this level will be a sound investment in Montana's tourism industry. It will have very positive economic benefits to local communities and main street businesses throughout the state. The five year schedule will make it possible to synchronize the improvements in the Park System with the state tourism initiative. Reducing the funding and stretching the program out to ten years is too long to wait to develop the partnerships which park improvements will stimulate.

The five year plan will also add and improve facilities more quickly, which will increase the public's user satisfaction and willingness to pay to use, thus augmenting the earning potential of park fees.

Funding at the recommended "ACCELERATED PARK IMPROVEMENT" level will provide Montanans with the substantial visible improvements which they have told the committee they want to see in their parks to increase their quality of life. Piecemealing or phasing makes results less apparent and adds to the frustration of people who have been complaining about the present situation for years already.

New Funding Sources

The committee is aware that finding additional funding for parks will be a difficult matter for the Governor and the Legislature. It felt that it would be best to suggest a broad spectrum of options which it considers the most appropriate of the many it considered. The committee further suggests that a healthy park system draws upon a rational mix of appropriate funding sources rather than relying on a single source of funding.

The committee agreed to include options which the majority favored even though one or more members did not. This resulted in a list of 16 revenue categories. Three of these, the General Fund, Coal Tax and User Fees are unanimous committee recommendations. The list does not include many other revenue sources which a majority of the committee did not favor for a variety of reasons.

From this list, or other sources it may prefer, Montana's political leadership may select those that it considers viable and adequate.

The committee also strongly recommends that rigid earmarking of funds be avoided, particularly where it might unnecessarily limit or encumber the flexibility and prerogatives necessary for responsive management.

In developing its recommendations the committee first defined the criteria by which it would judge all of the possibilities which were suggested by the public or surfaced in literature review and its own deliberations.

Prioritized Criteria for Evaluating Funding Options:

1. Preferred new funding sources should not create obligations or earmarking which diverts the department from, or is in conflict with, the park mission.

2. Recommended new funding sources should not carry accounting responsibilities and complexities which are beyond the management scope and capacity of department, but should contribute to a planned and balanced parks program.

3. The recommended funding options should have broad constituency support.

4. Funding sources which can be expected to provide long-term benefits, are stable and predictable, are preferred.

5. Funding sources which are the least costly and simplest to manage and which provide a revenue source large enough to assure a high "benefits to the public" vs. "cost to administer" ratio are preferred.

6. Funding sources which can be shown to have a logical tie to the purpose for which they will be spent are preferred.

7. Activity-related user fees should provide benefits to those who paid the fees.

8. Funding which permits or instills an expression of pride and confidence in the Park System and which can be used to enhance the aesthetic value of the system is preferred.

9. Given the demands on traditional funding sources, the committee will also give priority consideration to new, innovative, and creative funding options.

10. Because the public recognizes that there are urgent needs in parks and is rightly impatient to have them addressed, funding sources which will provide immediate budget relief to provide quick and visible improvements are also needed.

Recommended Funding Sources:

These are discussed in detail in the "Revenue Estimates and Discussion of Recommended Options" section which follows. Some sources include important qualifiers which are identified in the discussion.

* Unanimous committee recommendations

Rental Car Fees

***General Fund, restore**

***Coal Tax, increase parks share**

Statewide Mil Levy

New \$.01 Gas Tax

Big Sky Dividend

Sales Tax

Recreational Equipment Tax

***User Fees**

Restaurant Tax

RV Sticker

Nonresident Boat Fees

Existing Park Roads Maintenance

Law Amendment

Motor Vehicle Taxes

Small Boat Fees

Federal Matching Funds

The committee also considered and rejected:

- Liquor taxes
- Gambling taxes
- Tobacco taxes
- Bed taxes
- Corridor sales taxes—assessed only in the major travel area between Glacier and Yellowstone National Parks
- Land conversion taxes—assessments made when undeveloped land is developed for any nonagricultural purpose
- Land transfer taxes—assessed any time title to real property is transferred
- Nonresident landowner taxes—additional assessments on owners of property in Montana but whose primary residence is outside of Montana
- Fishing and hunting license fees—adding new fees earmarked for parks or allocating a portion of existing fees to parks

The committee felt that these did not meet enough of the criteria to be appropriate of viable sources of parks funding.

Revenue Estimates and Discussion of the Recommended Options

Rental Car Fees

Montana has about 15 firms with about 67 outlets in the short-term car rental business. From 80% to almost 100% of their gross annual earnings comes from non-resident rentals. They gross about \$12 million in annual nonresident earnings.

A 4% tax on nonresident business is estimated to earn about \$480,000 annually.

General Fund

The public at large believes that the State Park System is supported by the state General Fund and wants it to continue. The committee believes that the park system should be funded from a variety of sources and feels unanimously that there are sound reasons to include the state General Fund in that mix.

Park benefits go far beyond those who visit. Montana's quality of life depends upon the preservation of our cultural and natural heritage and the basic tax system should support it. State parks are a legitimate part of Montana's social and material infrastructure. The system is worthy of general taxation support by virtue of the same rationale as are schools and libraries.

Montana is the only state except for Florida and Missouri which does not use its General Fund in support of state parks. Florida and Missouri directly earmark a portion of their general sales tax to parks, instead.

The committee suggests the following formulae as options for returning General Fund support to state parks:

1) Match user fees on a fixed ratio. For example, at 1:1 the General Fund share would be about \$850,000 to \$950,000 per year in the coming biennium.

User fees could support user services and the General Fund could provide for park resource protection and infrastructure development and maintenance.

The matching formula would provide park managers an additional incentive to optimize fee earnings.

2) Restore the General Fund support to its 1985 level of \$624,000.

3) Use General Funds for bringing the present system up to standard in the capital program. It could be withdrawn when this is accomplished and user fees or other funding sources are available to assure life cycle maintenance of facilities. Of the \$4 million/year proposal, 1/4 to 1/2 could be used for matching federal funds and to address resource protection and rehabilitation.

4) The Montana Conservation Corps (MCC) which can address Montana's needs in the areas of disadvantaged and troubled youth, job training for teens and young adults, as well as address park and conservation projects is worthy of General Fund support for at least its administrative costs.



Coal tax

Continued use of the coal tax is consistent with the legislature's original intent that **the extraction of one nonrenewable resource, coal, be used to protect and develop another nonrenewable resource, parks.**

1.27% of all mine mouth coal tax collections is deposited in a trust account from which only the interest can be spent for parks purposes.

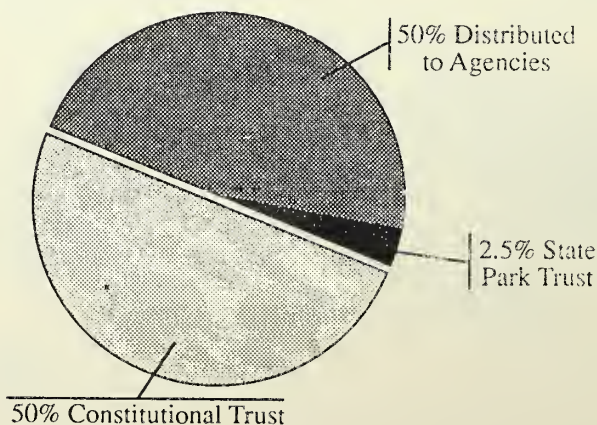
In the year ending June 30, 1990 the total tax collections equaled \$68,501,496. The parks share of this was \$869,969. Due to a reduction in the tax in coming years, the tax proceeds will drop to about \$40,000,000 per year with the parks share falling to about \$508,000. This will mean that the trust will grow more slowly than in the past.

Account status June 30, 1990:

Corpus balance (parks 2/3) \$12,112,778
Tax deposits, previous 12 mos. \$869,969
Interest, available to parks \$1,228,170

The history of the parks coal tax trust is one of erosion. It began at 2.5% but was reduced to 1.27% with a splitting off of 1/3 of the account to the Arts Council for cultural projects. The parks share became smaller again when 12% was allocated to the Department of Highways until 1993. It has also suffered the ravages of falling interest earnings, a temporary capping, and the scheduled reduction of the tax rate from 30% to 15% which is now being phased in.

ORIGINAL ALLOCATION

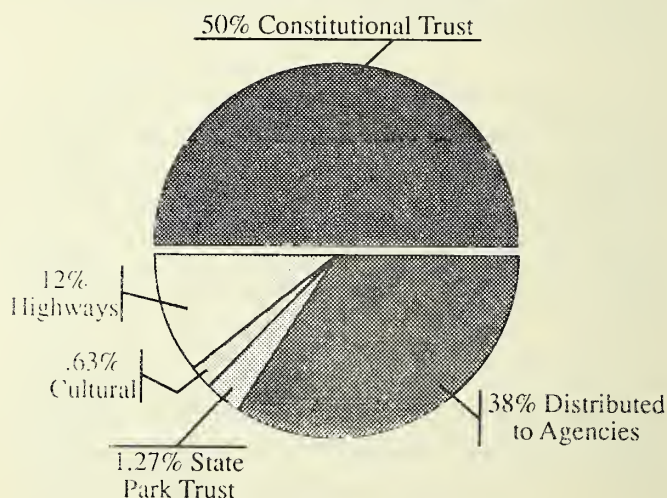


The committee strongly supports both the concept of using severance taxes to support parks and increasing the funding from this source. It also agrees with the use of Coal Tax for arts and cultural projects and does not want the funding formula for these purposes diminished in any way. It unanimously suggests the following options for accomplishing this:

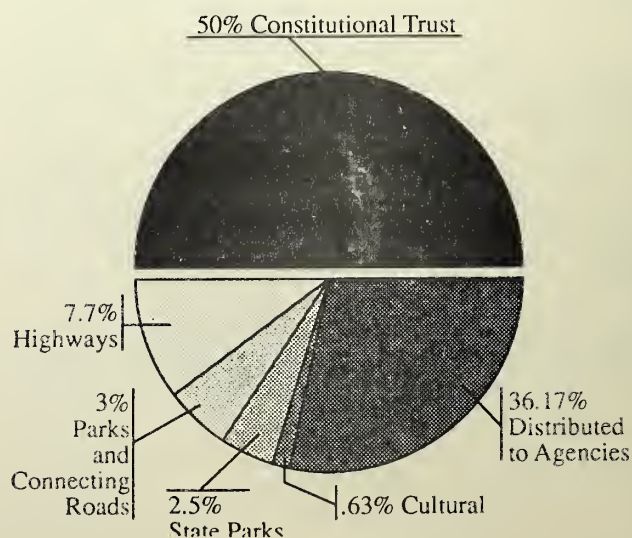
1) From the 12% now going to highways, direct that 3% be used for park connecting and interior roads, and from the same temporary highway account take an additional 1.23% to restore the parks Coal Tax Trust to the original 2.5%.

Present tax share @ 1.27% \$869,969 annually
New tax share @ 2.5% \$1,712,537 annually
Added interest first full year @ 10% \$84,000 new interest available for appropriation annually

EXISTING ALLOCATION

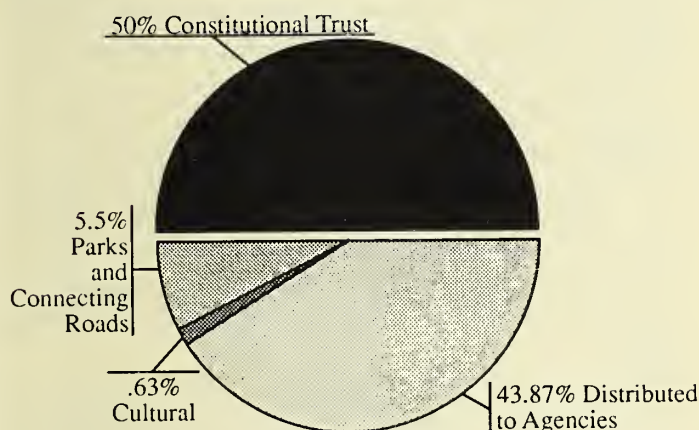


PROPOSED FOR 1991



2) When the temporary 12% allocation now going for highway rebuilding sunsets in 1993, earmark at least 3% for park purposes including the authority to use it in partnership with counties and others for park connecting roads. This would bring the total allocated for parks and park roads to 5.5% of the coal tax.

PROPOSED FOR 1993



Present tax share @ 1.27% \$869,969 annually
 New tax share @ 5.5% \$3,767,582 annually
 Added interest first full year @ 10% \$290,000
 new interest available for appropriation annually

3) In the absence of any increase, the committee strongly urges that the parks Coal Tax Trust be protected from any further erosion. The committee wants to go on record as supporting the share now going to the Arts Council for cultural projects.

Statewide Mil Levy

This would be another source of general taxation support. It might be preferred to allocating funds from the existing General Fund sources.

The 1988 earnings from the 161 mils was \$11,640,744.
 On a statewide average one mil was worth \$72,300.

(The 1988 assessments were: University system, 6 mils; Agriculture and Livestock, 75 mils; and all others, 80 mils.)

New \$.01 Gas Tax

The state gasoline tax is 20 cents per gallon. In the year ending June 30, 1990, this totaled \$87,832,742 less \$3,857,698 in refunds, or \$83,975,044.

The committee recommends adding a one cent tax which would generate about \$4.2 million per year.

This new revenue should be used for upgrading roads leading from the interstate and primary highways to state parks and for constructing, improving, and maintaining interior park roads.

Safe and reliable roads leading to and within parks is an essential need of park users. Paved highways are needed for high-use parks, particularly those serving nonresident travelers. People will not venture onto unpaved connecting roads with expensive equipment. Tourists cannot be expected to find their way to parks on roads that are not well marked.

The Park System is not funded to maintain its existing interior road system to a gravel standard much less pave roads or assume the responsibility for connecting roads leading from the interstate and primary highways.

Counties cannot afford to make these roads a priority unless there is sufficient resident use to justify it, which is most often not the case. This increase would provide relief for counties which are unfairly burdened in these instances.

Tourism is the major growth industry in Montana. Good roads are a vital part of making Montana's attractions available to our visitors thus encouraging them to stay longer in our state.

Big Sky Dividend

Governor Stephens has proposed capping the constitutional trust and using the tax proceeds, instead, through local governments for immediate infrastructure repairs throughout the state. The program is expected to generate about \$20 million per year.

The committee recommends that IF the legislature adopts the Big Sky Dividend program, it and the Governor add the State Park System to it as a top priority. State parks have infrastructure needs throughout the state. A healthy State Park System would improve our citizens' quality of life, preserve our priceless legacy for coming generations, and contribute substantially more to the state's and local community's economies.

The public considers state parks as part of the social infrastructure and as important as roads and bridges.

Sales Tax

The committee recommends that IF a sales tax is enacted, a portion should be earmarked for state parks, or appropriations be made to parks from an augmented general fund.

The committee believes that this is an appropriate use of this potential new revenue source for reasons already cited in the previous general fund and statewide mil levy discussions.

Recreational Equipment Tax

The committee recommends that outdoor recreational equipment such as camping gear, footwear and clothing, film and developing, nonmotorized boats, rafts and personal recreational floating equipment, trail bikes and three wheelers, snow skis, accessories and clothing, water skis and accessories, jet skis, hang gliders, and others which a more complete study might identify, be assessed a 4% tax at time of sale with the proceeds earmarked for state parks.

The committee recommends excluding equipment already subject to a similar tax, such as fishing equipment, firearms, and ammunition.

The Institute for Tourism and Recreational Research has rough preliminary survey information which indicates that nonresidents spend about \$73 million annually in Montana, and residents spent \$68 million, a total of about

\$141 million on these items.

A 4% tax at time of retail sale would yield about \$5.6 million annually.

The committee understands that more study would be needed to more specifically define what equipment should actually be subject to the tax and how much revenue it would generate. Preliminary analysis suggests, however, that people who own such equipment benefit from state parks and are not now supporting their recreation in the way hunters and fishers have supported their recreation very successfully for decades.

User Fees

1) The committee unanimously recommends that all users pay an equitable fee. It found the present level of fees is about right considering the existing level of facilities and services and in comparison with similar parks in neighboring states.

2) To assure fairness to users and to optimize collection of fees under the existing system, the department reports that it will take an additional \$90,000 and 3.5 FTEs, or 7 seasonal positions.

It is estimated that this will generate an additional \$200,000 per year through better fee compliance (currently spend \$72,000 to collect \$300,000).

The committee recommends that this be done and has covered this need in its funding recommendations.

3) The committee further recommends that the annual camping pass be reinstated, at an appropriate market price, for the convenience of campers.

4) Passes or discounts which are provided in parks, particularly those mandated by the legislature, should be rebated to parks by the General Fund or other appropriate account. **It is our recommendation that social welfare programs, not parks, provide any subsidy for the truly needy.**

5) The committee feels that the existing Golden Years Passes (for resident Montanans 62 years and older) should be honored but no new ones should be issued. It recommends that the department consider this as it decides whether to appeal the recent district court summary judgement which requires that existing passes be honored.

6) The committee urges the department to complete its land classification review and make the appropriate adjustments between parks and fishing access to remove confusion about fees.

There is confusion in the public about the difference between fishing access where fees are not charged and park system sites where fees are charged. Indeed, in many cases there is no difference in the facilities and services provided. Some fishing accesses, like parks appear to serve multiple users, not just fishermen, and seem to suffer from similar problems of lack of appropriate facilities and adequate maintenance. Because of the public's change of their use, some fishing access sites ought to be part of the State Park System and users should be charged appropriately for facilities and service.

Restaurant Tax

Eating places in Montana grossed \$378,586,000 according to the 1987 Census of Retail Trade. A 4% tax earmarked for parks would yield over \$15 million annually.

While data cannot distinguish between restaurant customers associated with recreation and business, another survey done by the Institute for Recreation and Tourism Research seems to show that almost half is attributable to nonresidents in Montana.

RV Sticker

The Montana Good Sam Club estimates that there are 35,000 recreational vehicles owned by resident Montanans. A fee of \$3.50 would earn about \$122,500.

Recreational vehicle users represent a substantial proportion of park customers. They also require special services not needed by picnickers or tent campers, for example.

The committee recommends the creation of a \$3.50 Annual Recreation Vehicle sticker which would be required for all RVs not now specially assessed a similar fee (such motor homes, travel trailers, 5th wheels, pick-up campers, and tent trailers) and earmark the revenue for state parks for RV services and facilities.

Nonresident Boat Fees

The committee recommends extending the present resident boat registration laws to certain nonresident boaters who use Montana waters.

Montana honors a nationwide reciprocity law which allows boats from other states with a federally approved numbering system to use Montana waters for up to 90 days without a Montana registration number. Counties "may" sell use sticker to other non resident boaters but none do because it is not cost-effective.

Canadians are not subject to reciprocity or to registration and are using Montana waters in ever greater numbers, particularly in the Flathead, without cost.

Neither the Department of Revenue nor the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks have records from which to make revenue estimates. In October 1990, too late for inclusion in this report, the Institute for Tourism and Recreation Research expects to have survey results which will be useful in estimating boat numbers.



Existing Park Roads Maintenance Law Amendment

Note: This recommendation will not generate additional funding but its implementation will free for other purposes park funds now going to road maintenance.

There exists permissive, but not mandatory, authority for the Department of Highways to provide certain connecting roads to state parks.

23-1-104. Connecting roads. The department of highways MAY (emphasis added) construct, improve, and maintain, with state highway funds, connecting roads between existing state highways and state parks. Each road shall not exceed a total of ten miles.

The committee recommends that this law be amended to include interior park roads as well as connecting roads and to make this a mandatory responsibility of the Department of Highways using highway gas taxes. Provisions should be made for assisting counties with roads which provide access to heavily used parks. This would be a very cost-effective partnership arrangement.

Motor Vehicle Taxes

There are 1,098,000 motor vehicles registered in Montana. A \$0.50 fee on all registrations would generate over \$500,000 annually.

Since most state park users arrive by vehicle, and because a substantial amount of the facility and maintenance costs are associated with vehicles, this would be an appropriate way to fund parks.

Small Boat Fees

The committee recommends that registration fees be created for canoes, rafts and draft boats under 12 feet long, for crafts owned by both residents and nonresidents.

Neither the Department of Revenue nor the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks have records from which to make revenue estimates. In October 1990, too late for inclusion in this report, the Institute for Tourism and Recreation Research expects to have survey results which will be useful in estimating boat numbers.

Federal Matching Funds

The committee urges the department to capitalize on all available sources of federal funds. It is aware of the following sources:

**Land and Water Conservation Fund
Dingle Johnson Fisheries and Boating Funds
Bureau of Reclamation and Army Corps of Engineers
PL 89 72 Funds
Federal Highway Administration Lake Access Funds**

The committee is also aware that these funds all require state matching of up to 50%. Its intent is that any new funding made available to parks be appropriately split to optimize the use of federal funds.





PARTNERSHIPS

Initial committee discussions recognized the tremendous potential of partnership strategies. Each committee member could reference, or was personally involved in, one or more success stories with parks relevance.

Effective partnerships provide a mechanism for maximizing limited resources of individual agencies or entities and for improving the quality of the end product resulting in a net benefit to the public.

The following realities create the need for pursuing partnership strategies at the highest level among public land managers: interlocking land control patterns; overlapping legal authorities; need for pooling limited special skills; complimenting missions and charters; all for a common customer—the taxpayer. Partnerships not only offer the best opportunity to maximize effectiveness but also demonstrate to today's more sophisticated and knowledgeable public that their public servants are up to the challenge of working for the common good and pooling of resources.

The public is most bothered by waste of resources and money and by needless duplication of effort. The public is cynical about the government's ability to make effective use of scarce taxpayers' dollars. Partnerships attack the problem on both fronts in highly visible ways.

We can no longer afford the traditional ways of doing business where each entity jealously guards its own turf. All agencies of government today are short of funds and manpower. To squander limited resources on separate discrete and inadequate efforts is unacceptable.

The committee sees opportunity for expanding the use of partnerships in two broad areas: 1) within the Governor's administration, such as between tourism and parks, and; 2) outside of state government, such as with the federal and local agencies and the private sector, where the Governor and his administrative leadership is needed.

The committee recommends the following actions:

State Administration Level

1) Montana must have an overall master strategy for managing all of its natural, cultural, and recreational resources. It should be developed under the leadership of the Governor and involve the directors of all of Montana's public land managing agencies.

Interagency cooperation and other partnership possibilities maximize the public benefits of a unified approach to outdoor recreational resource management in Montana.

By having a master strategy it is possible to mobilize support for the implementation of individual initiatives, particularly budget requests.

This is particularly important given the Governor's stated priority and initiative to improve the state's economy through enhancement of its tourism potential.

2) We respectfully, but strongly urge, that the Governor make the State Park System a top priority in his administration and begin a tradition which will be carried forward into future administrations because the demonstrated value in doing so will have been proven.

3) We recommend that the Governor convene his cabinet officers and other state officials to identify new state level partnerships to increase the utilization of parks for the social and economic well-being of Montanans.

Obvious participants include:

- a) the Department of Commerce**
for promotional and private sector tourism ties;
- b) the Department of Highways**
for improved signage, maps, and park roads;
- c) The Department of Natural Resources and Conservation and the Department of State Lands**
to assure that appropriate resources under their administration are effectively linked with parks;
- d) The Historical Society**
to share with Fish, Wildlife and Parks expertise in the preservation, management, interpretation, and promotion of historic sites;
- e) The Office of Public Instruction**
to use unique parks qualities to the best teaching advantage;
- f) The Department of Family Services, The Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services, the Department of Labor and Industry, the Department of Justice, and the Department of Institutions**
to use our park and human resources more effectively in symbiotic relationships through the Montana Conservation Corps.

4) Following the development of the Administration's strategy, we suggest that the Governor convene a Partnership Forum to develop and share future cooperative efforts drawing from all sectors of Montana society to the benefit of all taxpayers.

These partnerships should involve appropriate agencies of the executive branch and include local and federal agencies, the legislature, individual private citizens, not for profit organizations, and other private groups.

Only at the Governor's level can a "center of gravity" or "focal point" be established to marshal, coalesce, and make more effective the current individual efforts.

5) The committee supports the Governor's Natural Resource Council which meets regularly to discuss common land management concerns. It consists of the Governor, the Regional Director of the US Forest Service and the BLM State Director. We recommend expanding the membership and scope of that forum.

We suggest adding the Superintendent of Glacier or Yellowstone national parks, possibly on a permanent revolving basis. Consideration should also be given to adding other federal land managing agencies such as the US Bureau of Reclamation, the Army Corps of Engineers, and the US Fish and Wildlife Service on an "as needed," issue by issue basis.

This group, through the Governor's leadership, could be very effective in developing high-level statewide priorities, and carrying out comprehensive state/federal initiatives in recreational management, travel promotion and public information, for example, as well as continuing to address the traditional land management issues considered by the council.

6) To marshal the information of diverse agencies to further take advantage of the potential symbiosis, the present Geographical Information System should be augmented to include park resources data throughout the state.



Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks Level

The committee was impressed and frequently surprised by the number and scope of partnership arrangements being employed throughout the State Park System. These came to our attention through discussions with staff, during park visits, and public meetings. It was apparent that individual staff initiative and innovation, or outside interest, was most often responsible for these successes. These efforts appeared to be unique and not often shared with others. We found no department policies (except at the Great Falls Headquarters) which mandated, prescribed, encouraged, or budgeted for their use. Yet, they are being used to considerable advantage.

We also found that the partnership strategy has far more potential.

The committee recommends that:

7) The department develop incentives to encourage managers to use partnership strategies. This should be done with the participation of field managers to be most effective. Perhaps a portion of field operating budgets could be allocated on a one for one matching of partnership assistance. Awards for outstanding managers and their partners might be announced at an annual Partnership Awards function.

8) Staff be assigned to document and share the prescriptions for successful partnerships throughout the system so that each new manager and potential partner does not have to start from the beginning to learn the necessary laws, rules, procedures, and effective techniques.

9) Staff and budget should also be devoted to outreach to other states, agencies, and the private sector to keep abreast of the partnership phenomenon which is sweeping the country and becoming more sophisticated at an accelerating rate.

10) The department should take the lead in advancing the partnership initiative among a broad spectrum of entities both inside and outside government. The state's best experts in this field should be, and are, in the department. Unfortunately, presently staff time and funding is not available for such an initiative. The committee urges that it be considered when budget relief is realized.

The committee has developed an extensive list of partnership possibilities which are included in the Appendix. They include suggestions for private individuals, groups, businesses, and industry; and public agencies at the local, state, and federal levels. It has also identified a number of ways these partners could be used to raise money, promote, acquire, develop, and maintain parks.

It is not only the resources of the State Park System which are in jeopardy. Partnerships also have the potential to reach out to all levels of government, historical societies, and others to address the needs of the broader spectrum of cultural and natural resources. This would meet a need pointed out to the committee throughout the state and at the same time relieve the pressure for the State Park System to accept inappropriate management responsibilities because present alternatives are limited.

11) The committee recognizes the long-term value of establishing a private foundation to help support parks. It could raise money and accept bequeaths and endowments; be a park advocate; provide technical assistance; involve prominent, successful persons in park issues; and provide other services which it might choose.

This has been highly successful in virtually every worthy public endeavor including park systems. But, to be successful it must be professionally staffed and be adequately funded from the outset. Even under optimum conditions it would take at least a year to establish. The committee realizes that Montana's low population will make the task more difficult. For this reason it does not consider the establishing of a foundation to be among the early solutions to the parks problem.

It does suggest, however, that the department look for assistance in establishing a foundation. It might research the grants field for help or consider hiring consultant help if appropriate.

12) Volunteers can provide immediate and substantial benefits to parks. In fact, examples of volunteerism already exist throughout the system. However, except for the Great Falls Headquarters, there is no organized and staffed program which includes formal recruitment, job descriptions, training, uniforms, incentives and rewards, and the other amenities necessary to truly capitalize on the great potential of volunteerism.

The committee recommends that the department staff fund and develop a statewide volunteer program. It is the committee's intent that this be included if the department receives funding at either the "Park improvement" or its recommended "Accelerated park improvement" funding levels.

The campground host program now being used in some parks could be increased substantially if parks provided site amenities such as level pads, water, sewer, and electrical services which would make them attractive and feasible for volunteers. Fewer than five parks now offer these basic services. The committee urges the department to consider their installation a high priority in the capital improvements budget which it has recommended.

"Model" or "Destination" Park Demonstration Projects

13) We recommend consideration of two or more Model Parks projects to demonstrate the value of using partnerships to create true park destinations for both Montanans and tourists.

The committee cautions that the models proposed are chosen because they represent immediate and exceptional existing partnership opportunities. They should be encouraged before these opportunities are lost. They should not be viewed as, or implemented to avoid long-range orderly planning in the park system.

This concept has the potential to marshal the appropriate interests, expertise, and resources to capitalize on the tourism, educational, recreational, and legacy values of the State Park System.

The committee offers four examples of projects which would demonstrate a variety of partnership combinations using existing parks widely different in their present development and which are spread geographically throughout the state.

A common feature of all is their potential to capitalize on tourism, the industry with the major growth potential in Montana.

Agriculture, mining, and timber, while basic and important, have reached plateaus. When we view the high quality of Montana's tourism resources compared to other states and contrast that with the investment in those resources it is obvious that we have been very derelict in not developing and promoting them better. If we are to maximize the economic benefit to the state we must build a network of quality tourist attractions.

We must get away from the impression that Montana is only a pit stop between Glacier and Yellowstone Parks.

The committee is particularly **strong in its belief** in the importance of **partnerships** in improving the quality of our parks.

The following four examples will illustrate the committee's concepts. They demonstrate geographical distribution and diversity, all levels of development, and a variety of park themes. They all have two qualities in



common: they can coalesce a broad spectrum of partnership interests; and they have great tourism potential.

The committee recommends that the department study these and others which it might identify, for their viability. The committee urges that the best of these projects be included in the Governor's proposal to the 1991 Legislature.

"Chain of Lakes" Northwestern, new park, no development . . .

4000 acres recently donated by Champion International Corporation on McGregor; Upper, Middle, and Lower Thompson; Loon; Horseshoe.

Partners: *Champion International, US Forest Service, Plum Creek* for potential land trades; all publics for planning; private entrepreneurs, service clubs and volunteers, chambers of commerce for development and management;

A **"Flathead Lake"** destination park incorporating West Shore, Big Arm, Elmo, Finley Point, Yellow Bay, Wayfarers Parks. Located in Northwestern Montana, these parks have long been established and developed but are worn out. They are now individually but inadequately managed and promoted . . .

Partners: *the Salish/Kootenia Tribe, U of M Biological Station at Yellow Bay, Department of Highways, cities of Polson, Big Fork, and Kalispell, Chambers of Commerce, Historical Societies, Flathead and Lake Counties, Glacier National Park, Glacier Country Tourism Council, Department of Natural Resources, Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks, Department of Commerce, and the US Forest Service;*

Upgrade facilities and management to create a regional tourism magnet through common promotion, shared administrative and maintenance effort, and development of innovative and high quality attractions and accommodations.

Makoshika. Eastern, long established but primitive, great potential but little use because of lack of facilities and promotion . . .

Partners: *the Custer Country Tourism Council, City of Glendive, Dawson County, Glendive Chamber of Commerce, Historical Societies, Friends of Makoshika, BLM, to name only a few.*

Canyon Ferry. West Central, Tremendous immediate potential to increase use, opportunities, and revenue, established but new long-range planning underway . . .

It has the best potential for private investment and an immediate opportunity for significant symbiosis between the federal and state governments and the private sector.

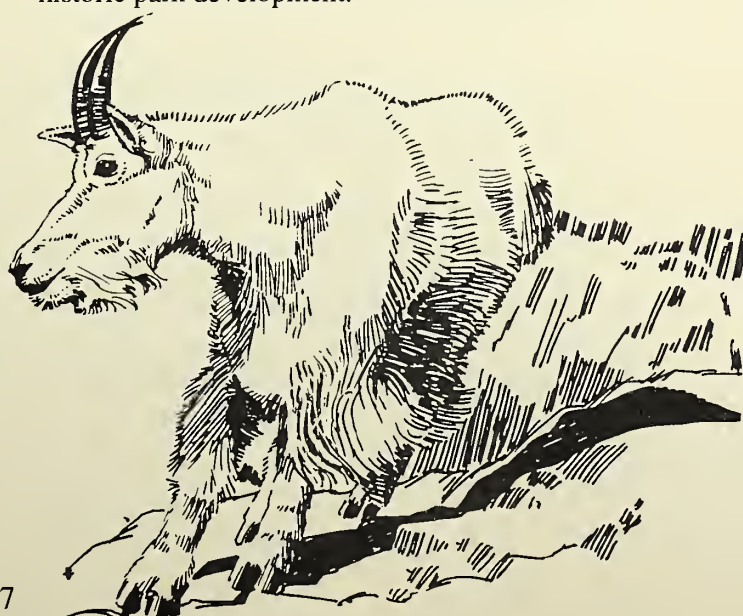
Partnerships involving the *Bureau of Reclamation, The Bureau of Land Management, the US Fish and Wildlife Service, Army Corps of Engineers, US Coast Guard, Lewis and Clark County, the Canyon Ferry Recreation Association, Broadwater County, Helena and Townsend Chambers of Commerce*, concessionaires, and adjacent private businesses, and other recreation and sporting groups.

Giant Springs. Central, well-established, well-developed but still evolving and growing, a first-class park with more opportunities immediately at hand . . .

New department headquarters, new fish hatchery, highly developed, high quality park facilities already in place. More undeveloped land acquired through trade and donation, new USFS Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center being designed.

Strong partnership groups in place: *Giant Springs Heritage State Park Commission, Great Falls Chamber of Commerce, Montana Power Company, Portage Chapter of Lewis and Clark Trail Foundation, USFS.* Almost 100 dedicated, well organized and managed volunteers.

Within high population area, nationally known, national historic site, and could be a model river front and historic park development.





THE MONTANA CONSERVATION CORPS

The introduction to this chapter of the report is taken from a letter written by Chairman Ed Zaidlicz to the Opinion Editor and which appeared on the Editorial Page of the Billings Gazette, July 1, 1990.

“TWO NON-RENEWABLE RESOURCES IN JEOPARDY”

In June the State Park Futures Committee inspected the Lewis & Clark Caverns State Park. Our 16 public meetings and other state park visitations confirmed that Montana had a problem. However, one feature of the Caverns proved noteworthy — it was the enduring quality of the work the Civilian Conservation Corps had done over a half century ago. The craftsmanship and functional value of their legacy had to be applauded.

Montana's last legislature, recognizing these historic achievements, wisely passed a bill creating a Montana Conservation Corps. Our committee was enthused about the work MCC could perform to correct many of the physical problems our state parks now face.

The MCC funding needs for 1990, to get the program started, amounted to \$225,881. Of this \$69,000 had to be raised from new first year entrance fees to our State Parks. The anticipated level of receipts was not realized and MCC was aborted. “For want of a nail a war was lost.” In reviewing supporting statistics to justify MCC's creation, I found “that for each public dollar invested we could expect a \$1.25 to \$1.93 return.” Our committee can confirm that an enormous backlog of badly needed conservation work exists just to protect Montana's priceless state parks.

The principle goal of MCC was “to provide a work experience program for unemployed or economically disadvantaged youth and adults” — a goal highly laudable and deserving of our early and enthusiastic support. However, in recent years I have been aware of another nonrenewable resource threat that Montanans must address beside state parks, and that is our emotionally disadvantaged youth.

I have witnessed (Billings area) professionals like Diane Barz, Harold Hanser, Ted Lechne, and Richard Kerstein agonize over their lack of options to save many of our disadvantaged youth from being drawn into the vortex of the criminal justice system.

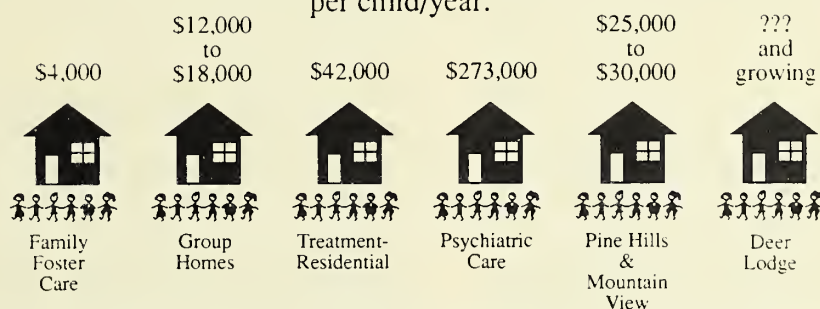
Sadly, our social system requires heavy dollar investment in youth, that have become court statistics, by placing them in costly environments that often fail to return these troubled children to a full productive role in our society. Many of these youth are confused and teetering on the line between achieving their birthright as productive citizens and the abyss that ultimately develops life-long inhabitants of institutions, which further sap our economic strength. We can't build enough institutions to warehouse all these future unfortunates, if current trends prove accurate.

Continued page 49 . . .

Our real hope is in preventive action to help redirect these children before they enter the "Justice continuum." Our educational community and the workers in the Department of Family Services are knowledgeable and aware of many of these young people who can be saved with timely action. The MCC is a cost-effective option that provides work experience to learn useful skills, to enjoy the therapy of productive physical labor in our great outdoors, to develop discipline and self esteem—all without the imprinted stigma of being "institutionalized."

If our social conscience is unwilling to accept this current, burgeoning evidence of impending catastrophe, perhaps hard monetary statistics may better focus on the inadequacies of our efforts.

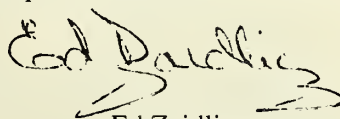
Currently for children 16 to 18 years of age we pay
per child/year:



In contrast the 1990 MCC program budgeted \$225,881 for 70 corps members (3 adult crews—4 summer youth crews). I know there are at least 375 kids now in Foster Care between the ages of 16 and 18 that could be considered for this alternative chance.

Too many of our scarce tax dollars are now directed toward unsuccessful "after the fact" action. We should shift emphasis to prevention and early lifestyle redirection to achieve long-term benefits and thus relieve our more fortunate children of some of the future tax burden our profligate and ill-advised actions have already levied on them.

Faced with a degeneration of a priceless legacy involving our state parks and our troubled youth, I believe we can ameliorate both problems by early reactivation of our dormant MCC program. The magic formula the 3 C's devised 50 years ago is still valid and most applicable. Must we continue to repeat the expedient but failed practices while we avoid the acceptance of a certain future catastrophe?


Ed Zaidlicz

In addition to the benefits mentioned in Chairman Zaidlicz's letter, there are others the committee feels are worthy of mention.

Timely action would provide immediate, obvious and low-cost improvements in our parks. This would keep the momentum of current public interest and provide early demonstration of concrete action.

The improvements which MCC could provide include

the type that would enhance tourism related facilities and fee collections thus returning early monetary benefits.

The committee recommends that the MCC Program be funded and implemented as soon as possible. The funding level recommended by the committee includes it, as mentioned in the "funding" section of these recommendations, the committee sees solid justification for allocating general fund monies to support the administration of the program.



THE 1990 MONTANA HISTORIC SITES STUDY COMMISSION

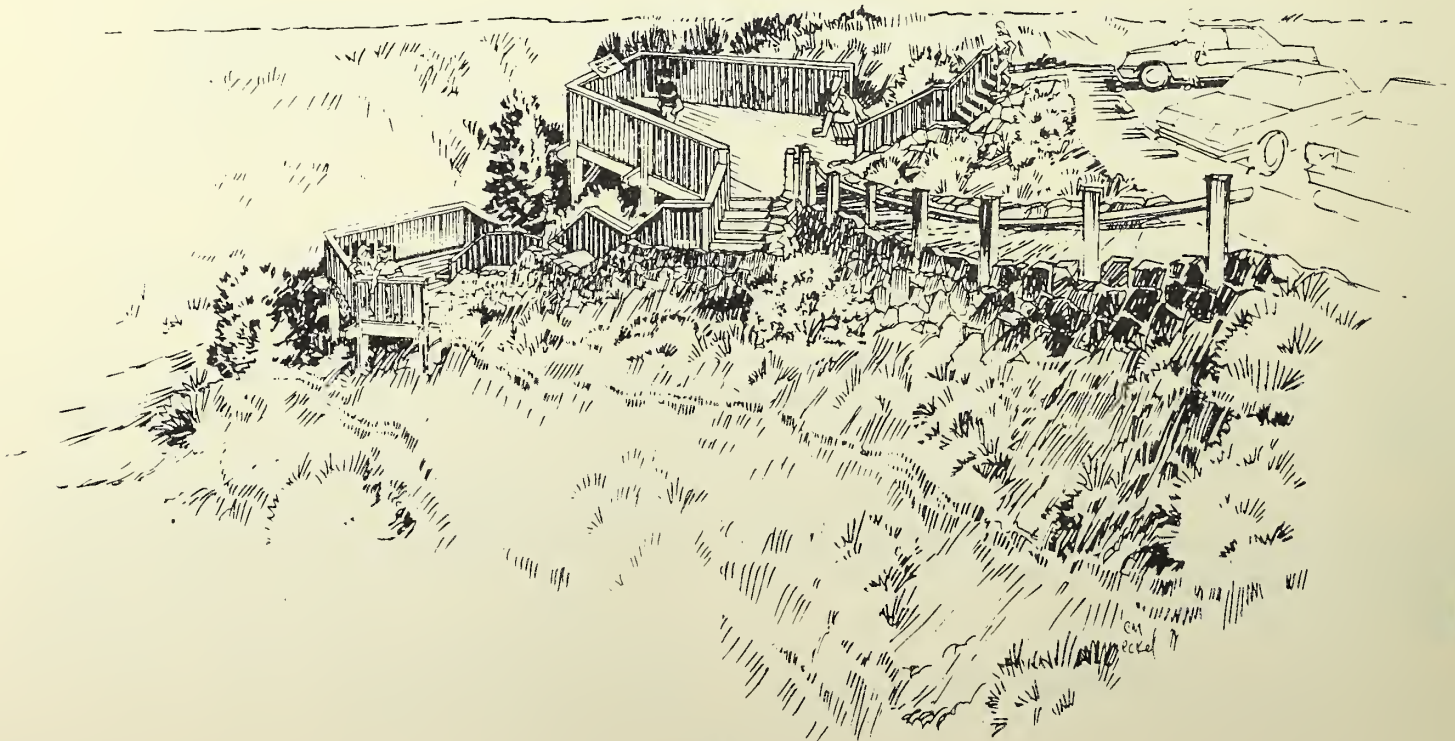
The 1990 Montana Historic Sites Study Commission was created by the Montana Historical Society to make recommendations to the Governor, Legislature, state agencies, and others about the future management of historic and prehistoric sites.

The committee was created after the 1989 Legislative Session which considered special legislation to address a broad range of concerns for the protection and utilization of these irreplaceable resources. The Legislative committees concluded that the Historical Society already had the necessary authority and funding without new legislation and agreed that a study was warranted.

The State Park Futures Committee appreciates the work of the 1990 Montana Historic Sites Study Commission and the Historical Society. Their detailed study of technical matters which are beyond the expertise of our committee gives appropriate special attention to our priceless cultural heritage.

The executive summary of their report will be distributed with a copy of this report. A copy of the complete report will be available from the Historical Society and will be included in the Appendix of this document.

It should be noted that the historic sites study may make recommendations which are beyond the capabilities of the funding recommendations of the State Park Futures Committee. For example, we have provided for only one cultural resources specialist and only modest increases for inventories and stabilization which are in line with the approach we have taken in funding the park system as a whole. We acknowledge the need for more and would welcome augmentation of funding for cultural purposes if it is not at the expense of the balanced system-wide program which we have developed.





CONCLUSION

The committee believes that this report accurately reflects the current condition of our parks, their management, and their needs . . . as well as a majority of the Montanans who took part in our review.

The committee's preferred funding alternative rests on a time frame of 5 years. We believe this to be most cost-effective in the long term. Benefits that can flow from early networking with Montana's current tourism effort, while difficult to calculate, also could be significant and an additional spur to the economic picture.

The heightened awareness of the general public to environmental issues, the exceptional quality of our state's natural resources, and the need to protect their leisure time playgrounds suggests the time is most opportune to marshal citizen participation to save our heritage.

In 1986 the public was stimulated by Governor's Forums on Montanans Outdoors, ten public hearings which were held throughout the state at the request of President Reagan's Commission on Americans Outdoors. Montanans expected follow-up which was not forthcoming until the meetings of the State Park Futures Committee in 1990.

The results of these two highly visible and enthusiastically received efforts were consistent and reinforcing. But little, if any, progress was made in the interim. People now not only expect, but demand action. Without it, irreplaceable resources may be lost and important social and economic benefits of the State Park System will continue to go unrealized.

The Administration, the Legislature, and many willing partners who have stepped forward have the opportunity to make substantial progress which will be anticipated and supported by an informed and concerned public. On the other hand, all risk public cynicism about the sincerity in inviting public involvement in the issue, as well as their ability to resolve these matters, if steps are not taken to address these serious problems.

The committee appreciated the opportunity to participate in the process. It was a rewarding, educational, enjoyable, and challenging experience. Montana is blessed with the finest park resources in the nation. We are served by capable and dedicated people. Members of the committee will not soon forget them or our park visits. We were uplifted by the members of the public whom we met. We found them knowledgeable, helpful, and enthusiastic.

We believe that this report accurately reflects the current condition of our parks, their management, and their needs.

We trust that it will be given serious and thoughtful consideration. We hope our recommendations will be implemented. It is not a superficial effort but involves more than a year's work by ten members, is backed by the support of a number of professionals and the experiences of other park systems.

Montana's parks have the potential to be the best in the nation . . . a goal within our reach and worthy of our efforts . . . for ourselves, our children, and generations to come.

APPENDICES

(not for general distribution)

- Individual public meeting summaries
- Consolidated public meeting summary
- Written comments
- Newspaper opinion poll
- Committee Membership
- Committee meeting schedule
- Canyon Consulting vita
- List of sites visited
- 1990 Montana Historic Sites
- Study Commission Report
- "Great Escapes"
- Master List of Parks
- State Park System Plan Draft, Surles
- State Park System Financial Review, Surles



State Park Futures Committee

APPENDIX E

STATE TRAILS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

MONTANA STATE TRAILS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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APPENDIX F

LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND BROCHURE

The Land and Water Conservation Fund



What is it?

The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) is a federal grants program. The fund allows states to assist their political subdivisions by providing grants for the acquisition and development of public outdoor recreation areas and facilities. Grants may be used to provide up to 50 percent of outdoor recreation project costs.

History

In 1963, in response to increasing demands for outdoor recreation, Congress created the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation (BOR) as an agency of the Department of the Interior.

In 1965, Congress passed the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act, which was to be administered by the BOR. The LWCF Act's primary purpose was "to provide a diversity of outdoor recreation resources which would allow individual active participation in a variety of outdoor pastimes."

In 1978, the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service (HCRS) was created to administer the LWCF program. Responsibility for the program was transferred to the National Park Service in 1981, within which it is currently administered.

Funding

The LWCF Act of 1965 provided up to \$300 million annually for the purposes identified in the Act. In 1976, the Act was amended and annual funding limits were increased to \$600 million for 1978, \$750 million for 1979, and \$900 million for 1980 through 1989. In 1981, during Congressional negotiations on government cutbacks, \$55 million of that year's allocation was rescinded. In 1982, Congress allocated \$150 million to federal agencies and zero to state/local governments. In 1983, \$70.6 million was awarded to the state/local side of the program. Since then the funding level has been in a decline with the states' share in 1990 at \$16.7 million. Although the program is not receiving its maximum funding, it still has Congressional support.

What has it done?

The LWCF has provided over \$3 billion nationwide to the states for outdoor recreation projects. Montana has received nearly \$29.6 million from the fund. With at least a 50 percent match required from the state and local sponsors, over \$59 million has been expended on public outdoor recreation in Montana as a direct result of the LWCF.

What can it do?

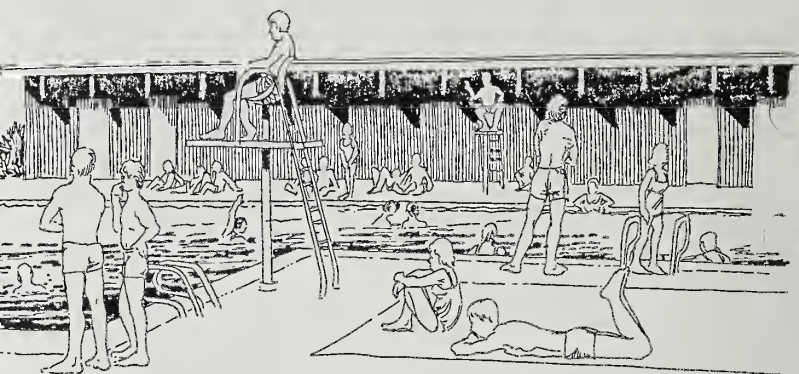
Fifty percent reimbursable grants are available to eligible sponsors for planning, acquisition, and development of public outdoor recreation areas and facilities. Because of the smaller federal allocations in recent years, the State of Montana has adopted a ceiling of \$50,000 per project for the federal share of funds.

The kinds of projects that have been approved and funded in the past include, but are not limited to, such facilities as archery ranges, ball fields, campgrounds, golf courses, ice skating ponds, picnic facilities, playground equipment, shooting ranges, snowmobile facilities, swimming pools, and tennis courts. Nearly any acquisition or development is eligible for assistance. Facilities directly supporting outdoor recreation areas, such as restrooms and landscaping, also are eligible.



Who can sponsor a project?

Any political subdivision of the state may sponsor a project. This includes incorporated cities or towns, counties, school districts, Indian tribes, and state agencies. All project applications must be officially submitted by an eligible sponsor.



How does it work?

In Montana, the Parks Division of the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks is responsible for administering the LWCF program. As the administering agency, the Parks Division receives all applications for funding assistance, evaluates the applications using an established ranking system, awards grants to the successful applicants, and monitors the program for compliance. A small administration fee is charged each project to cover these overhead costs.

In order to be eligible for funding assistance through the LWCF program, a potential sponsor must:

1. Be a political subdivision of the State of Montana; e.g. an incorporated city or town, a county, a school district, an Indian tribe, or a state agency.
2. Have its share of the total project costs committed at the time the application is submitted. A sponsor may raise its share of the costs through taxes, bond issues, force account (agency work force), and, in some cases, donations. Donations are limited to land and cash **only**. Volunteer services and donated material, though encouraged, cannot be used as matching shares.
3. Have effective land control. In the case of development projects, a sponsor must have control of the land either by title or long-term lease. Only land leased from a federal agency is eligible for LWCF participation.

4. Have adequate resources to operate and maintain the area after the project is complete. The LWCF has no funds available for routine operation and maintenance. The sponsor must agree to assume this responsibility.
5. Agree that the area within the project boundary will be maintained for public outdoor recreation for perpetuity.
6. Submit a completed application form. Applications are available from the Parks Division office. The deadline for submitting applications is November 1 of each year to receive grant funds two (2) years in advance.

Project application forms and technical assistance can be obtained from:

Parks Division
Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks
1420 East Sixth Avenue
Helena, Montana 59620

Telephone: 444-3750

The Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks receives federal funds and prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, sex, age, national origin, or handicap. For information or concerns regarding discrimination, contact the Personnel Officer, Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks, 1420 East Sixth Avenue, Helena, MT 59620, 406-444-2535, or Office of Equal Opportunity, U.S. Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240.



***Montana Department of
Fish, Wildlife & Parks***





APPENDIX J

LOCAL GOVERNMENT RECREATIONAL FACILITY AND NEEDS ANALYSIS FORM

(Inventory data is on file in the Parks Division office in
Helena and is available upon request.)

STATEWIDE SURVEY OF RECREATION FACILITIES
(County)

Name of County _____ Population _____

Contact Person _____ Phone _____

Address _____

County Park Board Chairperson (if applicable) _____

Has your county prepared a recreation plan _____ Yes _____ No

Please list the number owned, additional facilities needed, and estimated cost of needed facilities for your county:

FACILITY INVENTORY

facility	number currently owned	estimated number of additional facilities needed to meet demand within the next 5 years ↓	estimated cost
A. 00. CAMPGROUNDS			
01. tent sites	_____	_____	\$ _____
02. trailer or camper sites	_____	_____	\$ _____
03. group campgrounds	_____	_____	\$ _____
04. day camps	_____	_____	\$ _____
B. 00. PICNIC AREAS			
01. family sites	_____	_____	\$ _____
02. group shelters	_____	_____	\$ _____
C. 00. PASSIVE PARKS	_____	_____	\$ _____
D. 00. SPORTS & PLAYFIELDS			
01. general purpose playfields	_____	_____	\$ _____
02. baseball/softball	_____	_____	\$ _____
03. football/soccer	_____	_____	\$ _____
04. tot lots	_____	_____	\$ _____
05. tennis courts	_____	_____	\$ _____
06. rifle/pistol range	_____	_____	\$ _____
07. trap/skeet field	_____	_____	\$ _____
08. archery range	_____	_____	\$ _____
10. rodeo area	_____	_____	\$ _____
11. track facility	_____	_____	\$ _____
12. basketball courts	_____	_____	\$ _____
13. other courts	_____	_____	\$ _____
(please specify type)	_____	_____	_____

(over)

facility	number currently owned	estimated number of additional facilities needed to meet demand within the next 5 years ↓	estimated cost
E. 00. GOLF COURSE			
01. regular	_____	_____	\$ _____
02. par 3	_____	_____	\$ _____
03. driving range	_____	_____	\$ _____
F. 00. SWIMMING FACILITIES			
01. indoor pools	_____	_____	\$ _____
02. outdoor pools	_____	_____	\$ _____
03. wading pools	_____	_____	\$ _____
04. spray pools	_____	_____	\$ _____
05. swimming beach	_____	_____	\$ _____
06. bathhouse	_____	_____	\$ _____
G. 00. BOATING FACILITIES			
01. launch ramps	_____	_____	\$ _____
02. berths	_____	_____	\$ _____
03. boat lifts	_____	_____	\$ _____
H. 00. FISHING FACILITIES			
01. pier	_____	_____	\$ _____
02. fishing access area	_____	_____	\$ _____
I. 00. WINTER SPORTS			
01. downhill ski areas	_____	_____	\$ _____
02. sled/toboggan runs	_____	_____	\$ _____
03. indoor skating/ice rink	_____	_____	\$ _____
04. outdoor skating/ice rink	_____	_____	\$ _____
05. warming huts	_____	_____	\$ _____
J. 00. HUNTING AREAS			
01. waterfowl	_____	_____	\$ _____
02. small game/upland bird	_____	_____	\$ _____
03. big game	_____	_____	\$ _____
K. 00. OTHER FACILITIES			
01. amphitheater/band shell	_____	_____	\$ _____
02. visitor information center	_____	_____	\$ _____
03. interpretive center	_____	_____	\$ _____
04. museums	_____	_____	\$ _____
05. wildlife viewing areas	_____	_____	\$ _____
06. natural areas	_____	_____	\$ _____
07. wildlife preserve	_____	_____	\$ _____
08. arboretum/botanical garden	_____	_____	\$ _____
09. other facilities not mentioned above (please specify) _____	_____	_____	\$ _____

00. TRAILS

	total number currently owned	total miles	total number of additional trails needed ↓	estimated cost
01. hiking/walking	_____	_____	_____	\$ _____
02. horse	_____	_____	_____	\$ _____
03. bicycle	_____	_____	_____	\$ _____
04. motorized	_____	_____	_____	\$ _____
05. nature	_____	_____	_____	\$ _____
06. exercise	_____	_____	_____	\$ _____
07. x country ski trails	_____	_____	_____	\$ _____
08. snowmobile trails	_____	_____	_____	\$ _____

Wilson Jones Made In U.S.A.

C447-13 Redi-Cover

C447-13	RED	46712
C447-13B	BLACK	44713
C447-13BL	DARK BLUE	44711
C447-13J	LIGHT BLUE	44760
C447-13Y	YELLOW	44710

